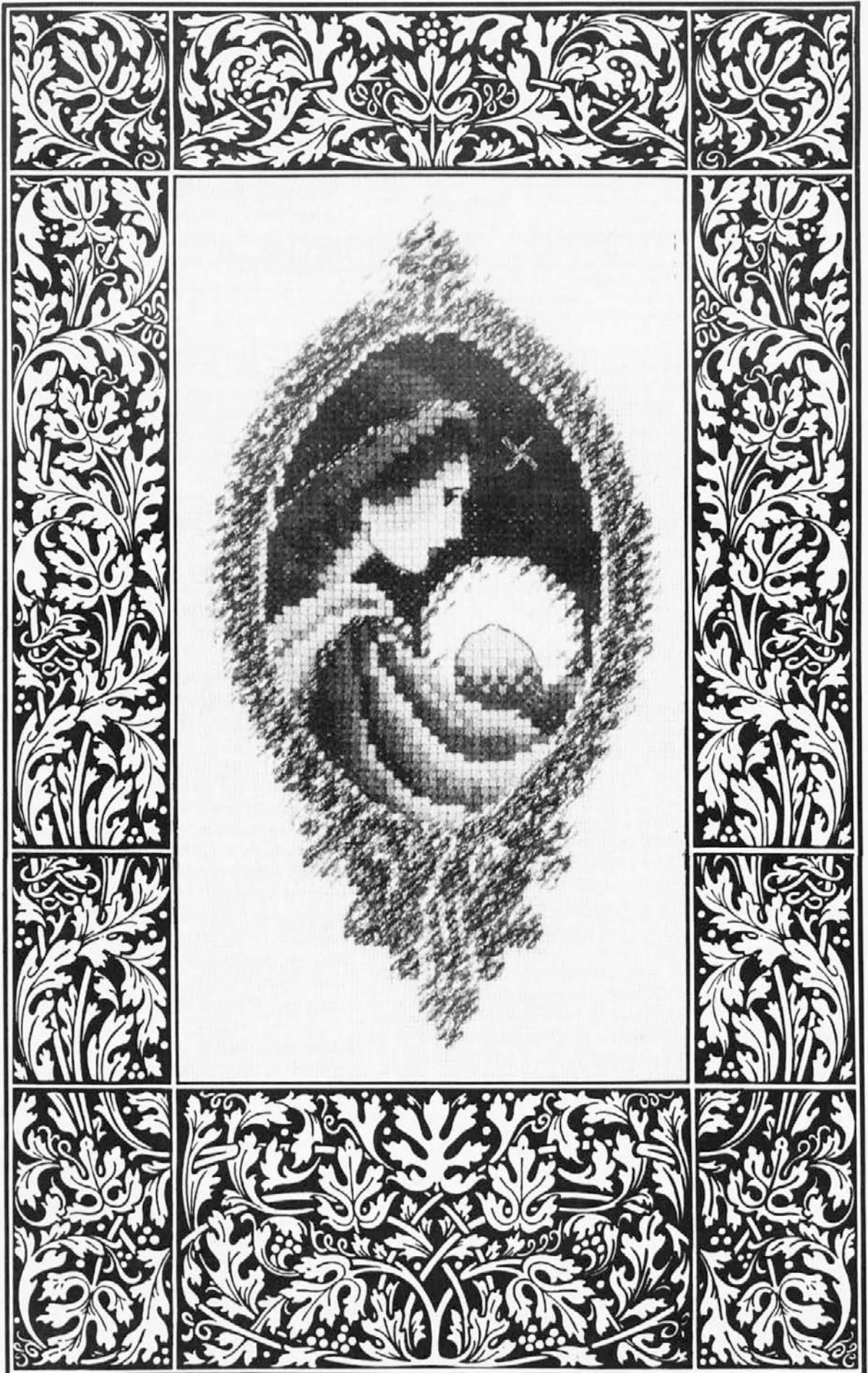


NO. 5-6  
MAY-JUNE,  
1995  
VOL. 67



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# ZARJA - THE DAWN

(ISSN 0044-1848)

Postmaster: Send all changes of address to: ZARJA - THE DAWN, 4851 S. Drexel Blvd., Chicago, IL 60615

NO. 5-6 MAY-JUNE, 1995 VOL. 67

Member, Illinois Fraternal Congress

Official Publication of the Slovenian Women's Union of America —  
Uradno glasilo Slovenske Ženske Zveze.

Published monthly except January, June & August — izhaja vsak mesec razen januar, junij in avgust.

Annual Subscription for non-members, \$15.00 — naročnina \$15.00 letno za ne-članice.

Publisher: SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION OF AMERICA  
431 No. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432  
Telephone (815) 727-1926

Second Class Postage paid at Chicago, IL

All communications for the next issue of publication must be in the hands of the Editor by the first week of the month — vsi dopisi za naslednjo izdajo mesečnika morajo biti v rokah urednice do 1. v mesecu.

Editor, CORINNE LESKOVAR

Editorial Office: 4851 S. Drexel Blvd., Chicago, IL 60615  
Telephone: (312) 548-8878

## 22nd National Convention

SAN FRANCISCO

California

May 19, 20, 21, 1995

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN MAY & JUNE

### National Officer:

May 1 - Jean Korsman, Minnesota Regional President,  
Biwabik, MN

### Presidents:

June 11 - Margaret Cullen, Br. 3, Pueblo, CO  
June 24 - Genevieve Safran, Br. 27, Braddock, PA

### Secretaries:

May 3 - Anna Anderson, Br. 79, Enumclaw, WA  
May 6 - Gladys Buck, Br. 16, So. Chicago, IL  
May 7 - Josephine Argubright, Br. 89, Oglesby, IL  
May 13 - Helen McFarland, Br. 66, Canon City, CO  
May 13 - Mary Mejac, Br. 103, Washington, D.C.  
May 17 - Marge Mollica, Br. 57, Niles, OH  
May 27 - Anka Kregar, Br. 55, Girard, OH  
May 28 - Linda Lambright, Br. 6, Barberton, OH

June 2 - Blanche Laurich, Br. 81, Keewatin, MN  
June 3 - Jane Hudak, Br. 74, Ambridge, PA  
June 8 - Anne Pavelic, Br. 8, Steelton, PA  
June 11 - Betty Stack, Br. 24, LaSalle, IL  
June 19 - Dorothy Brezonik, Br. 1, Sheboygan, WI  
June 29 - Elizabeth Spolar, Br. 56, Hibbing, MN

MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY!

## ON THE COVER...

The beautiful Madonna is a work by our stitchery expert Evelyn Majercik whose column "A Crafty Idea!" is a popular contribution to our ZARJA. Evelyn is offering the pattern for this Madonna for a \$1 donation. Address your requests to her at 31 Eldred Ave., Bedford, OH 44146 with self-addressed envelope and make check payable to ZARJA. We thank Evelyn for her diligence and generosity. A Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers and grandmothers! May the Blessed Mother keep blessing you all the days of your lives!

## DATES TO REMEMBER

May 7 PLANT SALE, Br. 102, Willard, WI  
June 3 ALL-DAY TOUR, Br. 105, Detroit, MI, Call Pat Adamic, 810-751-0513  
June 4 67th Anniversary of Br. 20, 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church  
July 16 ZVEZA DAY, Lemont, IL, Br. 2 hostess  
Sept. 17 WISCONSIN STATE CONVENTION, Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI

## MOTHER'S DAY PARTIES IN MAY

May 2 Br. 14, Euclid, OH, call Vera Bajec, 481-7473  
May 2 Br. 42, Maple Hts., OH, St. Wenceslas Church  
May 2 Br. 56, Hibbing, MN at Open Pit Supper Club  
May 3 Br. 32, Euclid, OH, honoring all Mothers at 6 p.m.  
May 3 Br. 33, Duluth, MN  
May 3 Br. 34, Soudan, MN  
May 4 Br. 2, Chicago, IL, Mass at 6:30 followed by dinner.  
May 6 Br. 25, Cleveland, OH at Sterle's Country House, 1:30  
May 7 Br. 35, Aurora, MN at Giant's Ridge  
May 7 Br. 39, Biwabik, MN at the Holiday Inn, Eveleth  
May 7 Br. 47 Garfield Hts., OH Luncheon honoring all mothers at Quinn's Restaurant in Solon, 1 p.m.  
May 7 Br. 81, Keewatin, MN at Tiger Town Eatery  
May 9 Br. 20, Joliet, IL, also Scholarship Award Night, Dinner at 5 p.m., call Home Office, 727-1926 or Agnes Dobiczyk, 727-2580  
May 10 Br. 55, Girard, OH, Mother-Daughter Banquet at Olive Garden in Niles, 5 p.m.  
May 11 Br. 50, Lunch at Sterle's Country House, Call Ann Tercek for reservations, (216) 261-3614  
May 13 Br. 16, Dinner at Crow Bar, Call for reservations, Gladys, 221-0475 or Edna, 221-5708  
May 13 Br. 105, Detroit, MI, El-Bow Room Restaurant  
May 17 Br. 54, Luncheon at Elks Club, Rt. 422, 1 p.m. Call Joanne, 856-2911  
May 18 Br. 5, Indianapolis, IN, Covered Dish, Contact Mary Frances Mohr, (317) 852-8305.  
May 18 Br. 24, LaSalle, IL, Paramount Club at noon. Call co-chairmen, Betty Stack, 224-1949 or Doris Hallett, 667-4266 by Tues. May 16th.  
May 24 Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI, honoring all members at Klemmer's Restaurant, 10401 W. Oklahoma, 1 p.m. Call Josephine Janezic, 545 0691 or Anne Konczal, 871-8295.

## MOTHER'S DAY PARTY IN JUNE

June 13 Br. 1, Sheboygan, WI at Shoney's. Call Ruth at 452-8251.



## NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### A MOMENTOUS CONVENTION!

*San Francisco, here we come!* Can hardly believe that it is only a matter of a few weeks before the 22nd S.W.U. National Convention convenes in San Francisco. Host Branch 13 and Convention '95 Chairman, Barbara Chiodo have worked tirelessly for months to make sure all is "A-Okay."

This Convention will undoubtedly be one of the most important decision-making processes in the history of S.W.U. of America.

We are relying on our delegates and National Officers to come prepared by reading and studying all proposals. As we are changing the agenda for this Convention, time will be valuable; therefore we must do our homework.

There will be three (3) Committees appointed, namely: By-laws, Credentials, and Nominating. By-laws Committee should study the proposed revisions mailed to them before the Convention begins. Credentials Committee will work as the delegates arrive to register prior to the Convention. Each delegate will bring one (1) copy of her Credentials which she will present to the Credentials Committee. It will be checked with the second copy that was mailed to the Home Office early in January. An accurate account of registered delegates and National Officers is required. The Credentials Chairman gives the report at the opening of the Convention proceedings. The Nominating Committee will have the awesome responsibility of presenting a qualified slate of candidates who will serve on the S.W.U. Board for the next (4) years. Additional candidates may be nominated from the floor.

There are serious issues being addressed which will have a major impact on the future of S.W.U. of America.

Dues/Direct Billing, Name Change (one suggested, "Slovenian Women United"), ZARJA publication issued 6 times per year (the Board decided 8 issues was feasible) are the main issues. Input has been gratifying which reflects a concerned and informed membership. We welcome your candor and constructive criticism.

Job descriptions will be given to potential candidates which will define the duties and responsibilities of each office.

A debt of gratitude must be given to our National Board for their relentless hours of planning and expertise resulting in very demanding and lengthy 3-day sessions.

"Mother/Woman of the Year" celebrations abound during this month of May. Our mothers and grandmothers have given us so much in the formation of good Christian character and ethics. The fostering of trust, honesty, and obedience are virtues which were instilled in each of us. Love of God, love for brother and sister, love of friends and neighbors, and love of Country were paramount in our daily lives, thanks to our dear mothers who by their example lead us the way.

In today's troubled world, motherhood is depicted with mixed and often demanding messages by the media and individuals. We must pray ceaselessly for a conversion in our values and morals. Our mothers did not earn Ph.D's but in my book, they aspired toward the highest and most cherished reward one could attain, the honor and glory of eternal happiness. God bless all of our mothers!

One final request, please pray for a successful, productive and joyfilled 22nd National Convention of the S.W.U. of America. May God Love You!

*Victoria "Tory" Bobence*



# Slovenian Women's Union of America

## 22nd NATIONAL CONVENTION



May 17 – 21, 1995

Canterbury Hotel, San Francisco, California

### OFFICIAL CONVENTION ASSEMBLY

#### Board of Directors

President, Victoria Bobence  
Vice President, Beverly Jackson  
Secretary, Olga Ancel  
Treasurer, Sylvia Vukodinovich  
1st Auditor, Marion Marolt  
2nd Auditor, Cirila Kermavner  
3rd Auditor, Josephine Lustik

#### National Officers

Director Women's Activities, Frances Morison  
Director Youth Activities, Bernadette Fitzsimmons  
Cultural Heritage Director, Irene Odorizzi  
Editor of Zarja, Corinne Leskovar  
Director, Scholarship Fund, Carita Girman

#### Regional Presidents

CA-OR-WA, Rosemary Mlakar  
MN, Jean Korsman  
OH-MI, Evelyn Majercik  
PA-NY-DC, Frances Kucic  
WI, Joan Yaklich (Acting)

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#### Convention Headquarters

The Canterbury Hotel and Whitehall Inn  
750 Sutter near Taylor  
San Francisco, CA 94109

(415) 474-6464 • GSC (415) 474-5856

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#### Delegates

1, Kathy Schroeder --  
2, Dolores Puhek Mary Foys Lauretig  
Jean Zeleznikar Jennie Kovacic  
10, Stephanie Segulin Mary Podlogar  
Theresa Dagg Stephanie Dagg  
13, Ceta Zagar --  
14, Diane Varney Martha Koren,  
Antoinette Zabukovec,  
Jennie Fitzthum  
16, Vida Kumse Gladys Buck  
20, Patricia Figurovski Agnes Dobczyk  
Jonita Ruth Marcia Judnick  
Charlene Kobe Marie Scheidt  
24, Jos. Grabowski Mary Ann Brunner  
25, Frances Gazvoda --  
Leslie Telich --  
32, Charlotte Perdan Anne Cooke  
33, Beverly Menart Virginia Mikrut  
34, Adrienne Miklich --  
35, Ann Orazem --  
38, Charlotte Laurich Katherine Knuth  
39, Jane Purkat Phyllis Kukar  
43, Arline Fritz --  
47, Olga Dorchak Mary Tauchar  
50, Mary Miller --  
Ann Tercek --  
55, Anka Kregar --  
56, Mary Massich --  
76, Mary Kell Barbara Dime  
85, Mary Jermenc --  
89, Angela Nico Josephine Argubright  
100, Jeanette Eckert Mary Lou Vidergar  
102, Mary Staut --  
103, Matilda Ausich Nika Kovacic  
105, Kathleen Emerson Mary Jane Smith

#### Alternates

# CONVENTION SCHEDULE

## Wednesday, May 17th

- 4 p.m. Early Registration for Delegates and Visitors  
*See Credential Committee*
- 5-7 p.m. Reception at Hospitality Suite  
*Craft Sale items accepted from 4 to 6 p.m.*

## Thursday, May 18th

- 9 a.m. Departure for all day Sight-seeing Tour
- 7 p.m. Late Registration for Delegates and Visitors  
*See Credential Committee*  
Reception at Hospitality Suite

## Friday, May 19th

- 7 a.m. *Craft Sales begin at designated place*
- 8 a.m. **Opening of 22nd National Convention**  
Address by Key-note speaker
- 9 to 11:45 a.m. **Convention Session I**
- 12 noon Departure for afternoon Sight-seeing Tour
- 7 p.m. Convention Banquet, Canterbury Hotel

## Saturday, May 20th

- 8 a.m. Convention Photo
- 9 to 11:45 a.m. **Convention Session II**
- 12 noon Departure for afternoon Sight-seeing Tour and  
Barbeque lunch - Free evening

## Sunday, May 21st

- 8 a.m. to 12 **Convention Session III**
- 1:30 p.m. Gathering for Procession to Church
- 2:00 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Victory Church
- 4:00 p.m. Banquet at Slovenian Hall, Installation of  
Officers and Adjournment of Convention

*A Meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors will take place Sunday evening at the Hotel, time to be announced.*

♥ The San Francisco committee invites everyone to bring along your Slovenian national costumes and wear them at the convention events, especially for the procession on Sunday to mass when will have the opportunity to show off our Slovenian finery for everyone to see!

## See You in San Francisco!

By the time you read this article, your bags will be packed and you'll be almost on your way to beautiful San Francisco. I hope you are excited as the members of Branch 13, who are ready to meet and greet you and make your stay with us a memorable one!

Just a few things to remember:

- ♥ Registration will be open at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 17th. You can pick up your registration package with all your tickets for the tours and banquets. You will need your tickets for the Monterey/Carmel Tour which leaves the Canterbury Hotel at 9:00 SHARP on Thursday morning. Registration will be in the hotel lobby or the Hospitality Suite on the main floor of the Canterbury Hotel.
- ♥ The Branch 13 Hospitality Suite will be open from 5 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday night, so come by and have a glass of wine with us before you go to dinner! We will also provide you with a list of restaurants in the area.
- ♥ Thursday night there will be a Welcoming Reception in the Hospitality Suite from 7 to 9 p.m. Please come and have a taste of San Francisco and California. (Registration also)
- ♥ Bring an all-weather coat or jacket. Remember, San Francisco is surrounded by water on three sides and it does get chilly at night.
- ♥ Delegates, please bring hand-crafted donations to the Convention from your branch members for the Scholarship and Heritage Fund Sales. We will appreciate beautiful hand-made and useful things, such as hand-sewn, embroidered, crocheted, knitted, stitched, etc. items. The sales will be held at the Hotel headquarters. If possible, please tag and price each item, and add the donor's name, too. Thank you very much.

The Convention is bigger than we expected and that is why we have booked a second hotel near the first one. For those of you who will be staying at the Cartwright Hotel, I know you will enjoy your stay. It is a beautiful hotel with an outstanding staff to meet your every need. And remember, you will be two blocks closer to the Cable Cars, Union Square and Chinatown!

As of now we have more than 165 people at both banquets and the reservations are still coming in. The tours are all booked solid, with a list of people on stand-by. I know you will have the time of your life at this Convention!!!

Branch 13 President Josephine Aiuto and the Convention Committee will make sure you truly do "leave your heart in San Francisco!"

*Barbara Chiodo, Convention Chairman*

# "SAN FRANCISCO WELCOMES US!

*Membership Campaign April 1, 1994 to April 1, 1995*

The year's convention campaign resulted in a gain of 159 members including 47 Juniors and 28 Junior transferees. Thirty branches participated.

**Branch:**

20, Joliet, IL	31	33, Duluth, MN	3
2, Chicago, IL	16	101, Bedford Hts., OH	3
108, Virginia Beach, VA	14	14, Euclid, OH	2
39, Biwabik, MN	13	38, Chisholm, MN	2
30, Home Office	11	47, Garfield Hts., OH	2
35, Aurora, MN	8	50, Cleveland, OH	2
43, Milwaukee, WI	8	1, Sheboygan, WI	1
12, Milwaukee, WI	6	3, Pueblo, CO	1
13, San Francisco, CA	6	16, South Chicago, IL	1
34, Soudan-Tower, MN	5	32, Euclid, OH	1
73, Warrensville, Hts., OH	5	79, Enumclaw, WA	1
42, Maple Hts., OH	4	89, Oglesby, IL	1
5, Indianapolis, IN	3	95, So. Chicago, IL	1
23, Ely, MN	3	103, Washington, D.C.	1
25, Cleveland, OH	3	105, Detroit, MI	1

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**Campaign Awards totalling \$230.50 are being mailed early May to workers or secretaries. Congratulations and appreciation to the 30 branches and 92 campaigners for their interest, care, determination and love of Zveza in enhancing the organization's membership. God bless you!**

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**Individual campaigners are:**

Jonita Ruth (20)	18	Raymond Nusko (2)	1	Beverly Menart (33)	1
Frances Siskar (39)	6	Julia Petrich (2)	1	Althea Twerberg (33)	1
Patricia Figurowski (20)	5	Mary Reich (2)	1	Adeline Mustonen (34)	1
Margaret Walling (39)	5	Jean Scianna (2)	1	Marcella Rooney (34)	1
Alouise Epley (73)	5	Jean Zeleznikar (2)	1	Maria Bradach (35)	1
Alan Bostjancic (108)	5	Pauline Pauchick (3)	1	Linda Cazin (35)	1
Dolores Puhek (2)	4	Phyllis Cesnik (5)	1	Connie Menart (35)	1
Corinne Leskovar (2)	3	Mary Fon (5)	1	Mary Nosan (35)	1
Mary Dezman (12)	3	Mary F. Mohr (5)	1	Betty Orazem (35)	1
Olga Ancel (20)	3	Anna Jelenich (12)	1	Joanne Plevell (35)	1
Margaret Louch (20)	3	Donna Frich (13)	1	Barbara Urich (35)	1
Cirila Kermavner (25)	3	Beverly Jackson (13)	1	Barbara Vudovnik (35)	1
Helen Adkisson (34)	3	Lois Jensen (13)	1	Mary Jane Gillman (38)	1
Mary Ann Braechel (108)	3	Mary Lehane (13)	1	Kathryn Knuth (38)	1
Linda Fischer (108)	3	Mary Globokar (14)	1	Veronica Byrne (39)	1
Mary L. Mathews (108)	3	Diane Varney (14)	1	Jean Korsman (39)	1
Ciszek-Reich-Pirman (2)	2	Edna Winters (16)	1	Sue Harris (42)	1
Ann Grambow (12)	2	Mary Babich (20)	1	Jeanette Offutt (42)	1
June Patrick (13)	2	Victor Bostjancic (20)	1	Arlene Fritz (43)	1
Mary Rozman (20)	2	Amelia DeFranco (20)	1	Sofia Grdolnik (43)	1
Joan Polyner (23)	2	Mary Kay Demick (20)	1	Elsie Spellacy (47)	1
Marjorie Church (43)	2	Marcia Judnich (20)	1	Mary Taucher (47)	1
Rosalie Dovnik (43)	2	Mildred Pucel (20)	1	Evelyn Pipoly (50)	1
Josephine Janezic (43)	2	Lori Tezak (20)	1	Anna Skebe (50)	1
Matilda Simcic (43)	2	Suzanne Tezak (20)	1	Anna Anderson (79)	1
Florence Mirtel (101)	2	Julia Zgonc (23)	1	Helen Gorgul (89)	1
Dorothy Brezonik (1)	1	Mary Pavlic (30)	1	Amelia Cuzella (95)	1
Elsie Ciszek (2)	1	Josephine Schmidt (30)	1	Dorothy Szumski (101)	1
Josephine Intihar (2)	1	Mary Ann Lekatz (32)	1	Nika Kovacic (103)	1
Irene Kalina (2)	1	Rosemary Donald (33)	1	Irene Odorizzi (103)	1

*Fr. Christian:*

# MAMA

Mama je prva beseda, ki jo otrok izgovori, prva beseda, ki ob njej čuti polnost čustvene navezanosti. Ob besedi mama, ki jo ponavlja znova in znova ko je v strahu pred novo izkušnjo, ko se sreča z nečim, ki mu je tuje, ko ga je strah, ko se srečuje z novimi življenjskimi odločitvami, ko je srečen, ko ljubi, ko je žalosten, vznemirjen, razočaran... vedno izgovarja besedo mama, saj se mu tedaj v njegovih mislih in spominu prebujata slika najsvetlejših oseb življenja. Mama, ti si hrepenenje, ljubezen, ti si vir srčnega utripa, ki je življenje, ti si upanje, radost, tolažba, upanje in vedno zorenje za prihodnost.

In mama ostaja vedno simbol življenja, simbol ljubezni in zavarovanosti ter iskrenega razumevanja, ki sprejema in ljubi brez-pogojno. V vseh obdobjih življenja, ob vseh najlepših trenutkih uspehov, žalosti, razočaranj, bolečine in novih podvigov... vedno je z nami naša mama, ki nam steguje roko v priznanje, slovo, nam čestita, se nam milo nasmiha in je ponosna na nas. Se vedno je tista, ki razume, ki brez-pogojno šuti za nas in z nami... ali vsaj čutimo tako.

Draga mama, tvoje srce je vsesprijetljivo, vedno ostaja z nami. Tvoja misel bo za vedno naš zvesti spremljevalec, pa čeprav si morda že zdavnaj odšla in te krije gomila, saj tvoj nasmeh, tvoja milina in zlasti tvoja ljubezen ne bosta nikoli ugasnili.

MAMA, HVALA TI ZA TVOJO LJUBEZEN IN TVOJO BREZPOGOJNO SPREJEMANJE,  
TI SI ODSEV SAME BOŽJE LJUBEZNI ZA NAS VSE, KI SMO TVOJI OTROCI!

Mama is the first word spoken by a child, the first word that gives a feeling of closeness. The word Mama, will be repeated over and over again, from infancy on, when the child is fearful of what he doesn't know, when there's a stranger in his midst, when he's afraid, when he encounters something new and unknown, when he is happy, when he is sad, excited, disappointed. That one word illuminates in his mind the picture of the one who is his safety, his consolation, his love, his hope and joy, the one who will be there immediately to hold and protect him.

Mama is the name for the symbol of life, love and trust, the deepest understanding; it means you belong and are wanted unconditionally. In all of life experiences, there is no one like Mama, always Mama, who extends her hand to you, encourages you, is proud of your achievements ... the hand that connects to a beautiful smile of welcome, of farewell, of understanding. All of us feel that way towards our Mama ... the feelings are deeper than any other.

Dear Mama, your heart accepts me as I am and is always with me. You accompany me on my journey through life and even if you are not physically present and the earth covers you now, your spirit, your smile, your sweetness and ultimately, all your love, is always near.

Mama, thank you for all you have given us, your children. You are God's reflection of love here on earth.



*Slovenian Madonna with Child*  
by Nancy Bukovnik

*Courtesy of Slovenian Research  
Center of America, Inc. Will-  
oughby Hills, Ohio, Prof. Ed-  
ward Gobetz, Director*

# SWU BRANCHES PAY TRIBUTE TO THE MOTHER / WOMAN OF THE YEAR!



*Jennie Worth, Chosen Mother of Br. 2 with her son, Joe and daughter, Anna (seated).*



*Helen Skul*

*Br. 2, Chicago, Illinois*

## **JENNIE WORTH**

Jennie Worth was born on March 12, 1926 in a small town known as Wilmerding, Pennsylvania. Her parents were of Italian descent. She was the middle child having two brothers, one older and one younger. Her parents (Joseph & Anna) and her older brother (Tony) are deceased. Her younger brother (Bob) lives in Houston, Texas with his family and although they are separated by many miles, they continue to have a very close relationship. As a young girl after completing school she went to work in the Westinghouse Air Brake factory. She met her husband-to-be (Joe) who lived in the next small town, Wall, Pa. and who was in the Navy. Upon his return home from overseas they were married on June 19, 1948. Later they became parents of two children, Joseph (who is now a florist) and Anna (who

was a special education teacher until the onset of a long illness with cancer).

Thirteen years later they wanted to move to California, and in 1961 were on their way, when they stopped in Chicago to visit their long time friend Mary Koziol and her husband. The Koziols helped them to decide to stay and make a home in Chicago. Joe passed away 12 years later just two months before their 25th wedding anniversary.

Jennie is well known for her excellent cooking and her hospitality. Because of this, her family has expanded to include many of her friends and her children's friends and three (considered "adopted") daughters; Marie, Joyce and Betty Ann. She also loves to crochet and work on other crafts and to participate in many groups some of which include S.W.U. #2 (joining in 1986), St. Stephen's and St. Ann's Senior Clubs, St. Paul/O.L.V. Mothers Club, Knights of Columbus and Alhambras Auxiliaries; and she also keeps active by volunteering at Mr. Sinai Hospital. Her son, Joseph uses his florist talents with table decorations at our meetings and usually makes it a festive occasion each month.

Jennie stated that it is an honor to be chosen as "Women of the Year." We wish her a very happy Mother's Day and many blessings in the days and years to come!

*(Contributed by Anna Worth)*

*Br. 3, Pueblo, Colorado*

## **HELEN SKUL**

Helen Skul, Mother-of-the year of Branch 3, has been a member for 17 years. She is a very active member, always willing to help out and generously donates cards, stamps, and bingo prizes.

The oldest of three children, Helen was born to Ann and Louis Anzick. Her sister, Ann passed away in 1948. Melvin, her brother, who is a veterinarian, lives in Livingston, Montana.

In 1948, she married Sam Skul and they enjoyed 44 years of marriage before his death in 1991. They had three children: Luann, her oldest, is a therapist and consultant in Anchorage, Alaska, Gary is the artist in residence at the Sangre De Cristo Art Center in Pueblo, and Tom is an architect designer also living in Pueblo. She has two grandchildren, Abby and Barrett. Abby is a member of Branch 3.

After attending St. Mary's Grade School and graduating from Central High School, she worked in the offices of the Crews-Beggs Dry Goods Store and the Colorado Fuel & Iron Corporation.

Due to her mother's illness, Helen was her devoted caretaker until her mother's death in November 1994. In 1994, her parents had completed 72 years of marriage!

Helen has many friends and this was shown when, in 1994, her friends celebrated her 70th birthday by chartering a bus so they all could go to Cripple Creek, Colorado to enjoy the casinos!

The members of Br. 3 are proud to honor Helen as the Mother of the Year. Congratulations!

*Br. 10, Cleveland, Ohio*

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### **STEPHANIE SEGULIN**

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Our Mother of the Year is from Br. 10 and has been a member for 7 years, three of them as president and 2 as vice president.

She is a Cleveland native; parents were Joseph and Steffie Koncilija who came from Slovenia. Our Steffie was born on Nov. 23, 1922, and was an only daughter with three brothers. She attended St. Mary's School in Collinwood, graduated from Collinwood High School in 1942 and attended Community College, graduating in 1972. In 1978, she graduated from Cleveland State University.

Steffie did housework and baby-sitting from the age of 12. When she was 18 she worked at the Cleveland Board of Education for 3 years. She has always enjoyed singing at St. Mary's and Cleveland State and also loves bowling, with many trophies on her shelf. She met her husband, Clarence Segulin, at a dance – they both loved dancing – when he was a marine in WW II. Steffie also spends her leisure time with friends playing cards.

Before Clarence passed away in 1969, they celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. It's already 25 years since she became a widow. There are five children in the family and they have their own families by now. Oldest is daughter, Stefanie Dagg who has 5 children; Michael has 2 children, Clarice has 3, Tina has 4. They all live in Ohio. So, the 14 grandchildren love to have their grandma stay with them, babysitting, taking them to school, also out to dinner and to the park! She always remembers their birthdays and sends gifts – even at holiday time. Seven of them are members of Br. 10.

Steffie is the president of Br. 10 and as such sets up social events that the members enjoy. She brings gifts for the raffles and with her wonderful personality, smiling and happy, she is nice to have around. She was chosen as the 1,000th member of a Senior Club and was honored by them at a dinner in Eastlake, Ohio.

Steffie thinks her greatest achievement in life was graduating from college. "It was a wonderful experience – and I believe everyone should attend college at one time. It was a great achievement to graduate. I enjoyed it and it made life more interesting because I met a lot of interesting people."



*Steffie Segulin*



*Anna Jelinek*

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*Br. 12, Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

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### **Anna Jelinek**

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A member of SWU Branch #12 for seventeen years.

In 1916, our mother, Anna Jelinek was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin into the family of Anna (nee: Kotar) and John Gorishek and their three year old son, John. Her mother was from Mirna Peč and her father from Šent Jernej in Slovenia. Her parents owned a wood and coal business in Milwaukee and she attended elementary and vocational school.

At the age of seventeen, Anna began cooking in a West Allis restaurant run by Agnes and Frank Kragel. There, Agnes played "match-maker" and in 1937 Anna married Albert Jelinek, a tool and die maker from West Allis. Three years later they built a home in West Allis where they lived until his death in 1973 -- after thirty-seven years of marriage.

Mom and Dad raised four sons. Albert is a high school

biology teacher in Milwaukee. Alfred is presently the Postmaster of Bristol, Wisconsin. Allen currently is president of the Milwaukee letter carriers' union. Alwin and his wife, Doreen, live in Cudahy where he is a tool and die maker. Three sons and their families all live in the Milwaukee area and Anna lives with her son Albert in Wauwatosa. She has five granddaughters -- Anna (Mike) Kelly, Elaine (Tom) Canzoneri, and Amy, Mary and Kim Jelinek and two grandsons -- Alfred and Jim Jelinek; and two great granddaughters -- Krysta and Malissa. Everyone of them likes to go to grandma's for her delicious homemade soup, potica, cakes and tortes. She is very proud of the accomplishments of all of her "kids."

Mom loves cooking, baking and homemaking. She has beautiful collections of porcelain birds and Hummel figurines. In 1978, the Milwaukee Journal featured her as "Best Cook on the Block", printing a nice article about her Slovenian background and her recipes for potica, stuffed veal breast and other "treats". This article prompted phone calls and notes from all over the country -- including one proposal from a total stranger! Her reaction, "He just wanted a cook and housekeeper. No way!"

Mother is a very warm, outgoing and generous person who is always giving of herself to others. Whether she is giving a word of comfort or support, a donation, flowers, or baked goods for a function at church, the Slovenian Retirees Club or SWU, a smile always accompanies her gift. Her smile hides the fact that she has some serious health problems including arthritis (she has had both knees replaced) and a degenerative motor-nerve condition. She faces each set back with the command to herself, "Push, Annie, push!" and proceeds with hope that things will be better. Her warmth and smile have endeared her to many. This is demonstrated by the fact that so many non-family members refer to her as "Ma." We hope that we can follow the fine example she has set for us.

*Albert Jelinek*

\* \* \* \* \*

To be chosen Mother of the Year is one of the greatest honors that I have ever been given. I am most grateful to my wonderful friends of Branch 12.

This honor made me reflect on different events and people that have touched my life. Three Slovenian women have made a lasting impression on my life. My teta Polonca (Apolonia Butchar) was much more out-going than my mother -- from her I learned the value of socializing and laughter. Not only did Agnes Kragel introduce me to my husband and teach me to cook but she also taught me a lot about dealing with people. My greatest role model was my mother who taught me to treasure the joys of homemaking, cooking, baking and motherhood. From her example I learned patience and a trusting belief in God. I hope I have made them proud.

*Anna Jelinek*



*Stana Grill*



*Mary Therese Ehnat*

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*Br. 14, Euclid, Ohio*

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**STANA GRILL**

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Stana Grill was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1928, is of Slovenian descent and was an only child. Her parents were Tony and Cecelia Mrsnik.

She married Val Grill with whom she shared many beautiful memories. They were married 39 years before she became a widow. Blessed with three loved daughters, Sharon, Connie and Cindy, who are all married and have families, Stana is now the proud grandmother of five, ranging in ages from 1 to 18 years. Grandma is always there when needed for babysitting and to feed their healthy appetites.

Stana has always been interested in the field of medicine and began working in this field as a Nurse's Aide at Huron Road Hospital during the last two years of high school which she concluded at Euclid Central in 1946. Later she worked part-time at Richmond Heights General Hospital in the admitting office. This position became full-time later. She retired after 25 years of service on Jan. 1, 1991.

Great enjoyment for Stana is her weekly bowling team with friends. She has been bowling for about 25 years and although she is just an "average" bowler, she really enjoys it.

At the present time, Stana is an Auditor at Br. 14 where

she holds a 34-year membership. Since being a widow and retired, more time is found to be an active member.

She says she is very happy with the honor of being the 1995 Mother of the Year and extends her thanks to the members for choosing her!

*Br. 16, So. Chicago, Illinois*

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### **MARY THERESE EHNAT**

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Our 1995 Mother of the Year, Mary Therese Ehnat, has been a member of Branch No. 16 for 55 years! She was born in Chciago on December 1, 1928 and both of her parents were Slovenian. Her brother, Edward Bajuk is deceased. She is a graduate of St. Francis De Sales High School on the East Side. She has done secretarial work at Henry E. Grempe Co., Great Lakes Carbon and at the present time is a clerical secretary in the Office of the East Side Chamber of Commerce.

Therese met her husband, George Ehnat in a most unusual way. While employed at Henry Grempe, George was working there as a welder and one day came into the office and accidentally bumped Therese with the door! That bump was the beginning of a courtship that culminated in their marriage on February 7, 1948.

George was employed as a Draftsman at John Mohr & Sons. He passed away on June 17, 1948. He also served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

Therese and George were blessed with 4 children in their marriage - Tanhe, (her last name spelled backwards!) is married to Paul Panczuk. He is employed as a teacher at Rich East High School in Park Forest and they have 3 children, Jason 18, Dana 16 and Nick 15. All children attend Marian Catholic High School and Dana applied for a K.S.K.J. Scholarship and received honorable mention.

Daughter, Georgene is married to Donald Saturnus who is employed at United Airlines and they have 3 children, Kara 10, Melissa 6 and Christopher 5.

Youngest daughter, Kathy is married to Walter Slezak, an attorney with Lord, Bissell & Brook, Corp. and they have 2 children, Joseph 14 and Susan 11.

Son, Tom is married to Karen Slezak who is the sister of Kathy's husband. Tom is a Radiological Technologist with a Chiropractor in Naperville and he and Karen have 2 children, Ben 7 and Barbara 5.

Therese has never held office in our branch, but has always attended all branch sponsored affairs, supported the events generously and attends meetings on a regular basis. She is a member of the Confraternity of Christian Mothers of St. George Church, St. Mary's No. 80 of the K.S.K.J. and the Women's Club of St. Francis DeSales Church.

She is the third member of her family to receive the honor of Mother of the Year. Her grandmother, Mary Matasick, was honored in May of 1958 and her mother, Mary Brebrick received the honor in 1972.

Therese will be honored at a dinner on Saturday, May 13 at the Crow Bar Lounge where she will be crowned 1995 Mother of the Year by our 1994 Mother of the Year, Bernice Jarkovich.

Therese is a devoted and loving mother and grand-



*Joyce Vicich*

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mother, has a sparkling personality, is a fun-loving person and as her sister members will agree, it is always a delightful experience to be in her company.

May you be blessed with the best of health, Therese, so that you will enjoy your lovely family for many years to come. Congratulations!

*Gladys K. Buck*

*Br. 20, Joliet, Illinois*

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### **JOYCE VICICH**

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Joyce Vicich has been chosen as Women of the Year 1995 by Br. 20, our largest branch of the SWU. Joyce has been a member for 28 years, since the time when her grandmother, Mrs. Frances Ukovich was honored by the same title, Mother of the Year, in 1967. Joyce's mother, Bernadine also became a member that year. Mrs. Ukovich is now deceased; she died at the age of 104 years, being the oldest member at the time of her death and a charter member, since 1926, the year of the founding of SWU.

Joyce was elected as an officer of Br. 20 back in 1987 when she became a Trustee and in 1988, was elected as Vice President. She then served as President in 1990 and 1991.

As President, Joyce initiated some wonderful activities for the members. She brought in guest speakers to the monthly meetings to keep the members up to date in many interesting subjects such as current fashions, styles, cosmetic care, current health changes, how various organizations operate, travel agent information, safety measures in the home, and many more. The members have truly enjoyed these programs. Joyce also initiated the change from Saturday evening to Sunday afternoon for our annual Grape Harvest

**ANN M. SAARI**



**Ann Saari**

Dance to accommodate the elderly. This has generated a more successful event with more people of all ages attending.

Joyce was born in Joliet. Her parents are Bernadine (Ward) and John Ukovich. She received her primary education at St. Joseph School and attended Joliet Township High School from where she graduated in 1967.

At present she works for the county as an accounting clerk. As such she has many contacts with people that she enjoys and it makes her job very challenging, she says. Joyce also enjoys working on her family history, so Genealogy has become a really fascinating hobby.

She and her husband, Robert Vicich were married in 1972. Robert is more than a good husband, he is also her partner in volunteering for many good causes included church, school and SWU activities. At present they help every Friday with the fish fry at the Moose club. Robert, she says, is her greatest inspiration in life; since she met him, he has been most supportive of all her endeavors. It is because of Robert that Joyce has become such an extrovert. Joyce tells of the time when Robert was courting her. At that time in her life, Joyce was extremely shy – too shy to talk to anyone she did not know well. He helped her approach people and not be afraid to talk and socialize. Today, Joyce enjoys greeting people and helping friends to overcome that same fear.

She is indeed a gracious lady. She and Robert have two lovely daughters, Debbie, a student at Joliet West H.S. and Jill, who has graduated and is employed at Cost Cutters. Both girls are our members, too.

Joyce states that her "role model" was Mrs. Emma Planinsek, a neighbor of Joyce's family a long time ago. She remembers her fondly because Mrs. Planinsek taught Joyce the time tables when she was a very young girl! As a good friend of her mother's, Mrs. Planinsek always had time for everyone and was a wonderful person – and very dear to her. Like Mrs. Planinsek, Joyce is truly an outstanding member and represents the best qualities of our Slovenian Women of today.

*A.M. Dragovan*

A lovely lady and a lovely member! Ann Saari has been with Br. 23 in Ely, Minnesota for 60(!) years and during all this time she has been contributing her talents and loyalty. In recent years she has been president of the branch. And remember the year 1941? That was the year Br. 23 Drill Team made it's debut with Ann as the Captain! In a 1942 issue of ZARJA Ann was described as "an endearing girl, with a pleasant personality and good leadership qualities"!

Ann was born in Ely. Her father, Michael Mertel, a mine worker, was killed the year she was born. Her mother, Magdalena Verbeck Mertel raised Ann, her two brothers and three sisters all alone. Mom passed away in 1946 and Ann took on the role as caregiver to her brothers and sisters until they grew up.

She was a brilliant girl in school. She decided to become a teacher and attended the St. Cloud State Teachers College, receiving a degree in elementary school teaching. She taught at Kettle River, Ely, Minnesota, Lansing, Illinois and Chamberlin, So. Dakota. During this time she married Uno Saari in 1936. Uno worked for the Corps of Engineers so Ann travelled throughout the U.S. where she was able to continue her teaching career. Ann was married for 58 years until Uno passed away in February, 1994.

Ann and members of her family are members of Br. 23. Her mother was also a member and was one of the SWU travelers which took a tour to the former Yugoslavia by boat (Ile de France) in 1938. That was a trip of great memories for all participants!

She's active in the VFW Auxiliary, even being elected to presidency of the state VFW. She is a peppy lady, always there for her member-sisters and friends. She is tall and has beautiful hazel eyes.

Marcella Zupec, past president of Br. 23 writes about Ann as follows:

"Ann is much too modest to talk about all of the things she has done for our Ely branch. In fact, she declined to accept this honor as our Woman of the Year when first asked about it. I know she is very proud of this tribute because it refers to her membership with a great group of women. I, for one, certainly can't think of anyone who deserves it more for all she has done for the branch."

*Br. 25, Cleveland, Ohio*

**FRANCES BARMAN**

*We have the pleasure of printing the story of our Mother of the Year, Frances Barman, as it was submitted to us by her son, Tony. We know you will enjoy his interesting comments and true interpretations from a son's viewpoint. We extend our best to Mrs. Barman who is 97 years young and hope she lives a happy life, with 100 years not too far in the future!*

Born in Slovenia in the town of Trzin, near Mengeš and Domžale, Frances' parents were Jakob and Gertrud Abe (Gertrud being the second wife of Jakob, after the death of his first wife). It was the year 1898 and the day, February 18th. The family totaled eleven! They lived mainly from farming, and so, for a better life, a number of them, namely 3 sons and 2 daughters, migrated to the U.S. early in life, settling in Michigan, Minnesota, New York; my mother, Frances went to Cleveland, Ohio in the St. Clair area, near St. Vitus Church.

In Slovenia, my mother, Frances had basic grade school education and she learned how to sew as her father bought her a sewing machine when she was only 12 years of age. This made it much easier later in life to get employment when she came to the U.S., as she had a skill. In the U.S. she first worked in a sweater factory and shortly after, started as a seamstress in a shop making ladies fine dresses. In 1940, she and I moved to the Collinwood area, at 159th St., and in the late 40's, she stopped working to devote full time to home-making and caring for me, her son.

Here also started her joy in gardening, growing plants. In 1951, she moved to No. Olmstead, so her son would be closer to his work at NASA, Cleveland Airport area. This new home had a lot more land for gardening and she expanded her hobby. Soon many trees were planted for landscape purposes, annuals, perennials, and a large vegetable garden flourished. Also, she and I were active with the first group that formed a new parish and built the new church of St. Richard.

Thus, mother became an avid gardener and also a rose fancier, growing prize-winning roses, exhibiting them in competition and winning many trophies. In her spare time, she braided cloth carpets (throw rugs) and, being a member of a woman's club, she made lap blankets (40" x 40") for nursing home patients and some of them were also donated to the Slovene Home for the Aged patients. One of her favorite places to exhibit her roses and other blooms was at the Berea Fair – she did this for some 25 years! Now, because of age and deteriorating eyesight, and being forgetful, these are only memories.

Mother first married Anton Colnar in Slovenia, during WWI. He was wounded in battle and died in 1919. I was born just six months before, so for a short while he was able to see and observe his son.

When mother migrated to the U.S. in 1930 and settled for a time with her sister-in-law in Cleveland, that is when she began working as a seamstress. Later she met Joe Barman, an auto mechanic. She married Joe in 1925 in St. Vitus Church by Fr. Ponikvar. Joe went into partnership with Frank Rich operating an auto repair and body garage on 61st St., behind Slapnik's Florist shop. Joe died in 1936 a victim of Hodgkins disease.

Widowed again, mother managed home, work and was instrumental in my finishing high school (East Technical) and going on to college, (now Cleveland State), from where I graduated with a BME degree (Bachelor in Mechanical Engineering). I left Cleveland for employment and mother was alone again for a new year as I was assigned to NACA, now NASA, Airforce Base at Langley Field, VA, as an airforce reserve corporal. When I was transferred back to Cleveland, we were together again. Here in Cleveland, with NASA, I was with the design and development team as



*Frances Barman*

project engineer until my retirement in 1974 in the development and construction of research and testing facilities at the Cleveland station and also at the Sandusky station, my expertise being in the system design, especially in cryogenic and ultra high vacuum fields.

Mother had a few ups and downs in life, but managed to survive and overcome them. We were still living in Collinwood when we made a trip to the Rocky Mountains in Colorado. There mother went on a horse-back ride over the Continental Divide and suffered a fall off the horse, breaking her arm at the shoulder. Apparently, the horse had been spooked somehow. In Estes Park Hospital, the doctors set her arm and applied the so-called "hanging cast", meaning that mother had to be in the vertical position day and night for some seven weeks, until the cast was removed. Upon return home, the arm break was checked out and found to be well-healed.

Later, with the help of hospital therapist, a friend, Pauline Eberman and myself, mother's arm was back to normal and with full use, but there were some hectic moments during her recovery!

In No. Olmsted, her garden and backyard was again under her watchful eye. Everything was growing well and there always was a bouquet available for someone's enjoyment, either at the nursing home, receptionist's desk, friend's home, the church. She still sees to it that I pass out bouquets of flowers at many of her favorite locations! Her special miniature roses are most popular and in great demand, especially with young ladies 6 years old or so! We grow some 200 large rose bushes and close to 100 mini roses bushes.

For mother, age is creeping up on her and life for her is frustrating with the loss of her eyesight, forgetful mind, bad knees, but she's o.k. otherwise! She says "I'm not deserving to receive so many honors now – others are much more qualified and they do much more! Now I can't do anything but eat and walk around a little!"

*Tony Colnar*

**What a wonderful story, Tony! We know that you mean everything to your mom and have been her "eyes" for a long time. Thank you! To Mother, Frances, we extend all the best wishes from members near and far!**

† **HELEN GULLA**

At the November meeting of Branch 26, the ladies voted Mrs. Helen Gulla as the "Mother of the Year." Since that meeting, Mrs. Gulla passed away unexpectedly on February 17, 1995. The ladies wish to bestow the honor of "Mother of the Year" to Helen Gulla posthumously.

Born July 9, 1909, in Lawrenceville, Pittsburgh, Mrs. Gulla's parents, John and Mary Benec, called the Bela Krajina region of Slovenia home. Helen was one of six children; four sisters, one who survives and two brothers.

Helen was a member of the Slovene parish of St. Mary Assumption from childhood, where she attended school and was a life-long member.

Her young years found her employed at the Hubbard Company which was the world's largest maker of shovel's and a major defense supplier during World War II.

On February 15, 1928, Helen walked down the aisle of St. Mary's to extend her hand in marriage to John Gulla. Helen was a natural homemaker who enjoyed baking and knitting. She and John had two children – son, Raymond at home and daughter, Rita Marmarelli. Helen also enjoyed her 3 grandchildren, David, Diane and John Marmarelli and 1 great-grandson, Michael. In 1992, Helen's husband, John passed away after 64 years of marriage.

While a 50-year member of Branch 26, Helen held the office of Treasurer. She was an active member attending meetings, socials and outings these many years. Although Mrs. Gulla was a quiet, little woman, her presence at our meetings will be truly missed.

Počivaj v miru, draga Helen!

**MADELYN M. ABBOTT**

Madelyn M. (Colosimo) Abbott was chosen to be honored as "Mother of the Year" for Branch 33, Duluth, MN, of which she has been a member for 37 years. She was born in Duluth, July 14, 1918, of parents who came from Italy, to a family with 2 girls and 3 boys. She attended Stowe Elementary and Denfeld High School. Her "life school" earns her a degree in courage, knowledge and kindness.

Madelyn has been a member of St. Elizabeth's parish her whole life. She married Joseph A. Abbott, July 6, 1941, and enjoyed a fine but short marriage. They were married only 7 years when Joe died, leaving her a widow at 29.

Madelyn's two children, Joseph Jr. (Junior) and Helene (Sissy) were 6 and 3 years old when their father died, have been her "life." Now they continue to be her "lifeline" as they continue to be a "family", (without "in-laws") only a son and two daughters.

Madelyn lived in her home "Maddie's Castle", just a short distance from her parent's home, and was "Mother and Father" to her children. She also housed those in need, including her Mother, whom she cared for in her home through several strokes, until moving into Lake Haven Manor which is now her "Home." There she is as much a "volunteer" as a "resident."

As her children grew older she held a variety of jobs to provide her children with the best life she could, even if it meant doing without herself. Her jobs included clerk/short order cook at corner grocery; waitress; cashier at Hotel Duluth, Black Bear Lounge; and St. Ann's Residence, from which she retired, 4 years after a triple by pass, with 14 years service at age 72.



†Helen Gulla



Madelyn Abbott



Lucille Svatos

Maddie's many hobbies include cooking "Italian style," baking, sewing, needlework, playing piano, redecorating "her way", and crafts that now include making butterflies and rainbows.

Both of her children, Joe and his wife, Patricia, and Helene live in New Duluth. They, and Helene's boyfriend, Dick Gillen, are her "family" as well as their dogs, and now the residents of Lake Haven, too, are part of her extended family. All four of them are always available to do whatever they can to brighten her life. Visits to her at Lake Haven, going for rides, and taking her to their homes for special meals, holidays, or just give her a chance to assist/supervise in the kitchen.

Madelyn and her daughter, Helene, are members of Branch 33. Her sister, Lillian, is a member of SWU in Hibbing, MN. She assisted our branch in any way she could, especially on "Italian" Ethnic Night.

Madelyn is a happy, comical, humorous, generous, talkative, caring, helpful, fun-loving, determined "people person". Always thinks about others and doing special things for them. It is a pleasure to know and be with Madelyn, as she always goes out of her way to make you feel you are a better person.

Madelyn will be honored with gathering and lunch at St. Elizabeth Parish Hall May 3 with family and friends. Come and join us for this happy celebration!

"A loving family is a caring family!" whether it is Madelyn's, yours, or mine.

*by Helen Abbott and Lois Pelander*

*Br. 34, Soudan-Tower, Minnesota*

## **LUCILLE BETTY SVATOS**

Our Mother of the Year is another first for Branch 34 - Lucille is of Czechoslovakian ancestry!

Lucille was born in Blooming Prairie, in the southern part of MN, where rich farmland abounds. Her parents, William and Mary Moravec Wencil, were also born in Blooming Prairie, William in 1891 and Mary in 1897; they lived on the farm of Grandpa Moravec. William was from a family of nine, 8 boys and 1 girl, William outlived all his brothers and died in Ely in 1979, having lived his last two years with Lucille and her family. William and Mary raised five daughters, only Lucille was their biological daughter, and she was born 13 years after they were married. Three of the other four were daughters of relatives who had died, one set of parents were both killed in a car accident when their daughter, Regina was only six weeks old.

Born on May 21, 1929, Lucille attended school in Blooming Prairie. She married Charles (Chuck) Svatos on April 9, 1947. He was born in Owatonna, on May 7, 1923, and Lucille always knew him -- he happened to live across the street from Holy Trinity Catholic Church, their home church. Chuck served in the Navy and was aboard the USS Chicago; he witnessed the end of World War II in Japan. When they were married they had a big celebration. Their attendants were a cousin, Marie Wencil, and Chuck's sister, Bernadette Svatos, also Ludwig Wencil and George Dietz



*Anna Rose Smolich*

Their wedding day started with the church wedding, then breakfast, then dinner, with a dance at night and lunch after that!

Chuck and Lucille became parents of five children, all of whom are college graduates -- Kathleen Bush of Duluth, a graduate of the University of MN, Duluth (UMD), teaches home bound children and also works at a group home in Proctor; there are 4 Bush children, Christopher, Amy, Anthony and Nathan.

Raymond Svatos, a graduate of Bemidji Teachers College, works as a Reclamation Officer for the Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board in Chisholm and lives in Iron, MN. There are 3 Svatos grandchildren, Jonathon, Sarah, and Matthew.

Ronald Svatos, a graduate of the University of MN St. Paul Forestry School works as a Forester in Ely for St. Louis County. Ron plans to be married this fall.

Mary Jacobson, a graduate of UMD majored in business is a homemaker. There are 2 Jacobson grandchildren, Benjamin and Eddie and they live in Cloquet, MN.

Steven Svatos graduated from Bemidji Teachers College and lives at home with Lucille and coaches at Tower-Soudan High School and works for Nelson's Hardware in Tower.

Chuck had heart surgery in 1967 and was never in good health after that. He had an aortic valve replaced, then in 1979 he had further surgery to replace the valve with a St. Jude valve. Chuck died on April 2, 1988, from cancer and was constantly in and out of the hospital during all those years. Chuck and Lucille were married for 41 years when he died.

In between bouts of illness, they traveled to every state except Alaska. Chuck's sister, Sr. Bernadette, with the Franciscan Sisters out of Rochester, MN, would come back home to MN and Chuck and Lucille would accompany her back to where she was teaching at that time. Since Chuck's death, Lucille has traveled also. She went to Japan to visit Sr. Bernadette with son, Ron. Daughter Kathy and Lucille went to London to visit grandson, Chris, who was going to

college there. Lucille and Kathy went to France to visit granddaughter Amy who was going to college in France; they visited Austria, Switzerland and Germany. Now Amy wants Grandma Lucille to visit Czechoslovakia with her! This past winter Lucille spent a week visiting friends in Florida -- what a traveler!

Lucille is what you would call a "master" crafts person! There seems to be no end to what she will make, her work being of excellent quality, neat, well-made, etc. She has shown her work at craft shows, Christmas boutiques, local stores and elsewhere. She has even tackled woodworking and is handy with a saw! She is an expert in crocheting and sewing. Being raised on a farm, she knows what work is and is an excellent cook and baker, her specialty being breads and rolls. We have tasted her delicious dinner rolls... she should be in business! A talent that we may be unaware of is hair cutting -- she tells about Eddie, her youngest grandchild, 3 years old, who told someone "only my grandma cuts my hair!" Lucille loves to pick blueberries and has had big gardens and has canned many quarts of vegetables and berries in her lifetime.

After Chuck's death, Lucille purchased a home in Tower and she did a lot of the renovating herself-scraping paint, varnishing woodwork, putting windows and painting! What ambition!

Lucille worked at Parkside Home in Soudan for 3 years and the Tower School for 22 years in the lunchroom. She joined our branch in 1981.

This petite, young looking, friendly, ambitious, hard working Czech gal, who can speak Czech, is our Mother of the Year for 1995. Congratulations Lucille, stay as cheerful and pleasant as you are.

*Adeline Mustonen*



*Br. 35, Aurora, Minnesota*

## **ANNA ROSE SMOLICH**

One can write volumes about Anna Rose, telling of her generous spirit, her goodness, her talents, her dedication to others, but perhaps the most memorable thing about her is the heartfelt smile with which she greets you! She loves people and people love her!

Ann Rose was president of Br. 35 in Aurora, MN for

8 years, from 1978 to 1986, during which time the branch benefitted from her talents for organizing meetings, events, and all kinds of activities. In 1987, the members honored her with a special testimonial banquet and she has since then been their vice-president, offering guidance and help in a continuous way.

Anna Rose has made quite an impact on the lives of her sister, Betty and brothers, Joe and Tom, 11 nieces and nephews, other relatives and all her many friends. She is able to do things no one else can or does. She opens her heart to everyone. After graduation from Duluth State Teacher's College in 1940, she became a grade school teacher and applied all her knowledge and feelings to the teaching of young children. She has been teaching for a total of 41 years. Besides the grade school lessons, she applied all her musical knowledge to glee clubs, soloists, operettas, school orchestras, and devoted herself to Holy Rosary Church as full-time organist. Whenever the Festival Singers of Aurora perform, Ann Rose is leading them and accompanying them.

She is especially beloved by the members of the American Legion Auxiliary of Aurora who presented her a plaque in recognition of her many years of service as music chairman for the local and district groups. The Biwabik PTA also held a Tea in her honor and thanked her with gifts and tributes for her dedication to children, teachers, school employees and townspeople.

So, it seems, everything that Anna Rose does is connected to people, little ones and big ones! Her eleven nieces and nephews are also recipients of her special love. She has taken all of them on vacation trips and helps them with costumes and decorations for their many activities. This is another talent -- she is expert at many crafts, such as tatting (she makes beautiful cards and stationery and will do some for our National Convention!), making posters and designing ways to show off her collection of spoons from all over the world. She has 162 spoons in all. The church and charities all have received examples of her work. One time when she and her mother arrived at a church function to give their donations everyone was surprised to see the back seat and trunk of the car overloaded with things made by Anna Rose, her mother and sister!

Her mother, Mary was the founder and first Treasurer of Br. 35 and served as president from 1955 to 1966. Since 1963, Anna Rose devoted herself to her mother's care and comfort, in the homestead where Anna Rose was born. Mother, Mary was always a joy to have at meetings while Anna Rose presided, giving all the assembly a real inspiration; here were two ladies totally devoted to the good of their branch!

And, Anna Rose herself has always thought of her mother as the greatest role model because she did so much with so little, was talented in so many ways, was very thrifty and knew how to enjoy her thriftiness and above all, her mother was very generous with her time and belongings.

A true musician, Anna Rose enjoys music in all forms and spends time listening to her favorites. Among her fondest memories is when she visited Italy and was present at a performance of the opera "Aida," in an open air theatre!

Aurora is a nice town. It is a nice place to live because there are people there who are friendly and caring. Anyone meeting Anna Rose Smolich will probably never want to leave!



## WHAT I LEARNED ABOUT BEING A MOM

*Carita Girman*

Driving the kids to school and daycare, kissing away little bumps and bruises, saying prayers and reading stories at bedtime, keeping the kids active in swimming, skating, soccer and piano lessons, thinking up new art projects and educational adventures, and constantly picking up toys and clothes. These are the things I thought defined being a mom. However, during last year's battle with recurrent ovarian cancer, from my two beautiful, smart daughters, I learned so much more about being a mom.

From my usually very understanding, sensitive seven-year-old Hannah, I learned that a mother should not wallow in self pity. While looking at my skinny, scarred, hairless body in the mirror, I started to cry over the reflection I hardly recognized as my own. With a wisdom beyond her seven years, Hannah brought the situation into focus by simply stating, "Mom, you're not the only one in the world with cancer, you know."

From my normally independent, strong three-year-old Maria, I learned that a mother should know how to confront scary situations. After seeing the exhausting and nauseating effects of the chemotherapy, Maria was sufficiently moved to share with me all her secret defenses. "If that doctor tries to give you that awful medicine again, spit at him. If that doesn't work, bite him. And if that doesn't work, say 'Na na na na na' and stick out your tongue."

From both of my silly girls, I learned that a mother should maintain her sense of humor, especially in regard to her appearance. My girls' favorite name for me was "Bald Eagle" until little feathers of hair reappeared. This name was particularly appropriate because the clumps of hair, which my girls painlessly pulled from my head with great amusement, were tossed out in the Eagle Creek Park area for the birds to use as nesting material.

Most of all, from my brave, loving children, I learned what being a mom is really all about. In spite of how "normal" we tried to keep our lives in this past year, I saw, heard, and felt the fears of my girls. Comforting Hannah when she had nightmares about mom dying, dealing with Maria's anger and dependency when mommy had to return to the hospital, reassuring Hannah that the chemotherapy was really helping and not killing mom, and explaining to Maria why mommy can not pick her up and hold her after surgery, these are the things that have been added to our definition of being a mom. To my girls, being a mom is not just doing all those normal, day-to-day motherly activities. From my girls, I learned that being a mom is giving children the sense of security that comes from knowing they will always have their mother's love.

Hannah Meeun (Beautiful Gift) right, and her little sister, Maria Ahwung (Pretty Flower) left, are the two precious daughters of Carita and Scott Girman. Hannah's 9th birthday is soon, on June 30th, and Maria will celebrate being 5 on August 7th.

To Carita, a special message from her darlings: "We love you, mom, and wish you a very happy Mother's Day!"





*Jean Korsman*



*Evelyn Pipoly*

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*Br. 39, Biwabik, Minnesota*

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### **JEAN KATHLEEN KORSMAN**

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Jeanette Kathleen Purkat was born on May 1, 1935 in McKinley, Minnesota to Anton and Annie Purkat, Slovenian immigrants. Her father was from Zapotak and her mother from Črnopolj. She was the youngest of five children. Brother Don lives in McKinley, Cyril in rural Gilbert, MN, sister Marge Walling from Duluth, MN; Rosemary is deceased.

Jean attended the Gilbert Public School and was a homemaker from the time of her first marriage in 1953 to Robert Perpich. After her marriage ended in 1972, she went to work at the Gilbert Shirt Factory, moving on to several jobs including office work at the newspaper, receptionist

work at a dental office, and even a laborer at an Iron Range taconite plant! When she remarried in 1981, she became a farmer's wife and she continues to work on their potato farm in rural Gilbert.

Jean has many talents, but she is an "expert" at cooking and baking. She makes wonderful meals all the time, but especially for holidays. She makes **the best** poticas and strudels, often for weddings and funerals, and always for special occasions. She makes these items as "gifts" for Christmas and birthdays as well.

Jean is married to Roy Korsman, and together they live and farm near the St. Louis River in rural Gilbert. In 1983 they traveled to China, Russia and Finland on a People to People agricultural exchange. Since that time they get together each year at a different site for a reunion with the people they met on this trip. Another trip is being planned for 1996 to Finland (Roy's heritage) and will hopefully include a visit to Slovenia.

Jean is the mother of four children. Jim Perpich (Rosemary Pazzelli) of Eveleth, Kathy (Tim) Riordan of Virginia, Barbara (Hank) Schoonover of Minneapolis, and Rob Perpich of Gilbert. She also has two step-daughters, Kathy Chapman of Gilbert, MN, and Linda Radtke of Shoreview, MN. In January of this year, another step-daughter, Jeanne Radtke, was tragically killed in a car accident.

She has 5 grandchildren. Laura Maki (age 21), Melissa Maki (age 18), Philip Perpich (age 13), Patrick Riordan (age 8) and Valerie Schoonover (age 2). She also has 16 step grandchildren ranging in age from 3 years to 22 years old. Jean is a wonderful grandmother with whom the children love spending time, especially sleep-overs at the farm which often include berry picking and baking with Grandma. She is always ready to pitch in with babysitting, even traveling to Minneapolis for week-long stints when needed.

"My grandmother, Annie Purkat, enrolled my mom in SWU in 1974, and after a "slow start", I don't think there could be a more active member of SWU than my mother, Jean Korsman. She has served as President of branch 39, Biwabik, MN, for the past 4 years, and currently is the Minnesota Regional President. She is diligent in her work for SWU, contributing many hours of her time and talents. She was the delegate from Branch 39 to the SWU Convention in Cleveland 4 years ago where she also brought her (then) 89 year old mother. She will, of course, attend the National Convention in San Francisco in May."

Jean has enrolled her two daughters in SWU, as well as all her grandchildren. She works hard to keep the Slovenian traditions alive, and her participation in SWU is a source of great pride and an inspiration to her family.

Jean Korsman is an active woman of the 90's! Besides helping out on the farm with planting, harvesting, and selling their "Primary Foundation" seed potatoes, Jean has become enthusiastic about her husband's many farm-related activities. She attends his County Ag Inspectors courses and has joined the auxiliary for the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, serving as Vice President for two years.

She has been a board member of the American Cancer Society for eight years, serving as the unit President for two years. One of her favorite associations has been as a member of Soroptimist International of the Americas – the largest service organization for women in the world, where she has

attended Regional meetings in three states and the International Convention in Toronto, Canada.

My mother has an outgoing personality and is quite a "talker." She is always impeccably dressed and looks remarkably younger than her 60 years (May 1, 1995).

*Kathy Riordan,  
daughter*

*Br. 50, Cleveland, Ohio*

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### **EVELYN BLATNIK PIPOLY**

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Evelyn Blatnik Pipoly was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on August 30, 1923, the youngest of six children. Her parents were Frances and John Blatnik. She attended Collinwood High School. Evelyn has one daughter, Sharon Trivisonno Roberts, from her first marriage, and a son-in-law, Dr. John Roberts. Evelyn and husband Mike Pipoly have been married for the past 25 years. Mike is an avid golfer, and bowler, and as a championship boxer was inducted last year into the Ohio Amateur Boxing Hall of Fame.

Evelyn worked as a Caterer for many years while raising her daughter, then joined Antenna Specialists Co. for 20 years, as a line leader, and First Aid Dispenser. She retired in 1980.

Mrs. Pipoly has been a member of the Slovenian Women's Union of America for the past eight years and has been Membership Secretary since 1989. She has been active and an officer of many other groups including the Slovenian Home of Collinwood (member of their Board of Directors), the Collinwood P.T.A. (President), the Greater Cleveland Federation of Dance Clubs (President, and Chairman of Advertising for the Square Dance Magazine), member of the Italian Sons and Daughter of America (V. President, and delegate to National Conventions).

When help is needed, everyone knows that Evelyn Pipoly is always ready, willing and very able. While Evelyn spends a lot of time sharing her skills with her organizations, she is even more generous to her friends and family. If there is a member of her extended family that she has not helped, we are not aware of it. She is "Aunt Evelyn" to many loving nieces and nephews, great nieces and great nephews, a very loved aunt. Her sisters, Vida and Justine and brother, Bob think that Evelyn has been a wonderful sister. Evelyn also had two brothers, Harry, and Albin who are deceased. To her husband Mike, she is "the best thing that ever happened to him," and is a wonderful, loving, caring mother to her daughter Sharon, and son-in-law John. Evelyn has more friends than anyone we know, and is always there for them.

There are eleven other family members at Branch 50 of the Slovenian Women's Union of America, they are: daughter, Sharon Roberts, of North Carolina, husband Michael, sisters, Vida Heisroth of Ashtabula, Ohio, brother Robert, wife Marlene, and daughter Holly of Rowlett, Texas, sister-in-law Mary Blatnik, and nieces Bonnie Blatnik, Kathy Blatnik, Charlotte Carleton, of Delaware, Ohio, and Hermine Morrow of Dallas, Texas.

One of the best times of Evelyn's year is the week in June that she spends at Sunset Beach, NC at her daughter's



*Br. 73 selected Virginia Nemeth (right), seen here with Judy Tintera.*

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beach house. At least 10 to 15 additional family members join her renting an additional beach house. Meals are planned each day for the entire group (everyone has one turn), and the evenings are spent playing cards (another love of Evelyn's) and sneaking out to Grandma's Homemade Ice-cream store for ice-cream. Of course the miniature Golf Championship is held each year, too!

Our family's Mother-Woman of the Year, is a leader, a very generous person, whose kind manner, hospitable spirit, and whose interest in everyone and everything makes those around her feel lucky to know and love her. "Ev" is a very active person, whose favorite hobbies are playing Pinochle, dancing the polka, reading everything she gets her hands on, and being with friends and family.

Evelyn wants everyone to know that she is honored to have been chosen by the members. She has really enjoyed being a part of Branch 50 and has been able to meet and know many of the members through collecting the dues each year. Ev loves her family very much, especially her wonderful daughter and son-in-law who have been very supportive of her. She feels blessed to have so many friends and family who are so good to her, and especially for her husband Mike, who cares for her all the time. Evelyn is also sure that her mother, Frances Blatnik would be very happy that she is carrying on the Slovenian traditions. Thank you one and all, and God Bless you.

*A.T.*

*Br. 73, Warrenville, OH*

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### **VIRGINIA NEMETH**

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Virginia Nemeth is a member of Br. 73 for twenty years! She loves to attend meetings and participate in all their functions, always willing with a big smile on her face to do what she can to help. Her donations are generous for whatever good cause. She is a happy lady and the members have enjoyed her company these 20 years! Frances has two children, John and Bob Nemeth and five grandchildren, Katrina, Shawna, Bret, Matthew and Jenifer. Granddaughter Katrina Nemeth was a S.W.U. Scholarship recipient some years ago.

She loves to crochet and makes delicious pierogis, one of her many good cook specialties!

Best wishes to Virginia for continued fraternalism and we hope all our members will come to St. Wenceslaus church for her celebration on May 2nd!

*Br. 100, Fontana, California*

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### **MILKA ZUPANCIC**

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Milka Zupančič was born in 1913, in Goče, Slovenija. Her father was Ivan Mišlej and her mother's maiden name was Barbara Volk. At age seven, Milka was forced to take care of her younger step brother and sister after the death of their mother. Her father then remarried, and four more children were born. She attended elementary school in Goče Pri Vipave. She says that her brother was probably the greatest inspiration in her life and still has cherished memories of their childhood together.

At age 20, she left Slovenija to get a job doing domestic work in Trieste, Italy. During World War II she ended up in a concentration camp in Bologna, Italy, where she spent five years. She met her first husband, Dušan Vaseljavič, there, and they were married in 1945.

In 1950 they came to Gary, Indiana. Milka ran a boarding house and she cooked, washed and cleaned for 30 boarders. Following that extremely hard work, she decided to go to work in a sewing factory in Gary and remained at that job for the next twenty years. Her marriage then ended and she left her job.

In 1964, she met Martin Zupančič in Indiana, and they were married in 1969. Three months after their marriage, they moved to Fontana, California. Her husband passed away in January, 1988, after 19 years of marriage. Milka has a stepson, Frank Zupančič, who, with his wife, Poldi, live in North Hollywood, California with their seven year old son, Martin. Milka enjoys their visits very much.

Milka's main hobbies are gardening -- both flowers and vegetables (her beautiful dahlias are 12 to 15 inches wide), sewing, crocheting, cooking and baking. She also enjoys frequent bus trips to Las Vegas with senior citizens' groups. She has been taking these trips (sometimes weekly) for twenty-three years.

Milka joined Branch 100 in 1970 shortly after she moved to Fontana. She always participates in Branch activities wherever they may be. She is a very willing worker and always helps with strudel making at the Slovene Hall. She is also a member of the Fontana Slovene Senior Citizens Club and the Fontana Slovene Womens' Club. Milka also very frequently visits friends who are ill and unable to go out.

Milka Zupančič is an extremely good-hearted person with a terrific sense of humor. She ALWAYS says something to make everyone laugh. She has led an extremely interesting life -- a book on her life experiences would no doubt be a "must read."

Milka says she is extremely happy and very proud to have been chosen as the 1995 Woman of the Year. The members of Branch 100 are very proud of Milka, and we congratulate her on being our 1995 Woman of the Year!

*Mary Lou Videgar*



*Milka Zupancic*



*Edith Ann Backus*

*Br. 102, Willard, Wisconsin*

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### **EDITH ANN BACKUS**

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There are few of us who know or remember how it is to milk a cow by hand! Edith does! Her life is distinctly tied to the farm and the traditions of her family of origin which was among the first to settle in the Willard rural area. She still lives in the homestead of her grandparents, and is a collector of antiques especially old Slovenian artifacts, linens, books and souvenirs. She says her grandchildren, when visiting, love to have grandma open up her closet and see all that she has stored away from by-gone days!

Let's go back to her birthday on August 14, 1931. She was born in a large family with 2 brothers and 3 sisters; being the oldest, living on a small farm in West Central Wisconsin, without modern facilities except electricity, their's was a world of their own. Her mother was Slovenian,

Ivanka Zallar was her name and her father was Elmer Severson, of Norwegian descent. She attended grammar school and then two years at Greenwood High School, later receiving her GED diploma. Early in childhood she was good at domestic chores and did a lot of babysitting for neighbors.

She married Walter Backus on June 21, 1947. He served in the Pacific during WW II and was at Iwo Jima. He has been self-employed, delivering gasoline products throughout the Willard and Greenwood areas.

Their four sons and one daughter comprise the family. Bill is retired from the Air Force and is a postal worker in Aurora, Co. Leslie works at MariGold Dairy in Stewartsville, MN. Joan is employed in Marshfield; Jim is a Clark County Deputy Police Officer and Bailey is a student at Greenwood High School. All the children's achievements were supported by Edith and Walter, with prayers, sacrifice and encouragement. They have 8 grandchildren, 2 step grandchildren, and one great grandchild. Unfortunately distances separate them, but visits are treasured times when grandma prepares good Slovenian food for them!

Edith has been a member of Br. 102 for 26 years and her daughter and two grandchildren are also members. Her mother was a member for 11 years. As a member of other organizations, Edith has held various positions, many of them involving kitchen work and organizing Holy Family parish events. She is a very pleasant person, always greeting people with a smile and good word. She teaches CCD to young parishioners and helps with 4H groups. Folks at the nursing homes see Edith quite often as she makes her rounds visiting and helping others wherever necessary. She earned the nickname "Choo-choo" many years ago and this might still apply to her active schedule!

Edith remembers two very special friends in her life, Mrs. Tončka Champa, now deceased and Mrs. Ann Šilc, both formerly of Willard. The two ladies gave her much information about her Slovenian heritage. Tončka, she says, brought her special souvenirs from every trip to Slovenia and always spoke Slovenian to her. Ann taught her how to make many traditional foods, potica is still one of her specialties. All this inspired Edith to take Slovenian language classes led by John Snedic and is very proud to be associated with the Slovenian Women's Union. She still keeps in touch with Ann Šilc who now lives in Willowick, Ohio.

She says that her greatest inspiration was her mother who instilled in her honesty and the willingness to be of help to others.

The members consider Edith a wonderful choice as Mother of the Year and thank her for all her generosity and loyalty to the branch.

*Br. 103, Washington, D.C.*

### **MARY PLANTAN BODLING**

Mary Plantan Bodling was born in Fallentimber, Pennsylvania, the first of five children of Amelia Smerc and Josef Plantan. Mary's parents had come from large families in Slovenia: Amelia was born and raised in Šentrupert, near Laško; Josef had left his home in Veliki Podljuben, near Rudolfswerth (now Novo Mesto) at age fourteen.

They were married in Coalport in 1921 and later made their home in Johnstown. Mary recalls that her dad, a coal miner for many years, grew vegetables and flowers and planted apple, plum, and pear trees. She describes her mother's potica as the best anyone ever tasted.



**Mary Bodling**



**Mary's painting entitled, Pears is dedicated to her father.**

One of Mary's early childhood memories is of a grade school teacher's observation that her name, Plantan, sounded French. When she mentioned that puzzling comment to her father, he readily confirmed the teacher's guess by explaining his part-French background. It seems that one of Napoleon's soldiers, during one of the Emperor's Austrian campaigns, had abandoned his regiment after meeting and marrying "a beautiful Slovene maiden." He and his bride settled in Veliki Podljuben, and soon the Plantan name was known and respected throughout the area. Today, numerous descendants of that first Plantan couple in Slovenia live in the Novo Mesto district and in America. One, Ivan Plantan, a lawyer and banker, was elected to the town council in Ljubljana (or Laibach, as it was then known) in 1897.

Mary left Johnstown for Washington, D.C. late in World War II to work for the U.S. Government. It was there, at a St. Matthew's Cathedral social, that she first met her husband, Walter. He had chosen military service as his career, and as a consequence Mary found herself on the move frequently. She has kept house on Okinawa, a stone's throw from the South China Sea, and in Bavaria when Walter was transferred to those distant places. She served as a Red Cross volunteer in an Army hospital; and she handled publicity for the German-American Women's Club sponsored



*Frances Adamic, Mother of the Year of Br. 105, with her husband (left) enjoyed meeting Slovenian super star of the accordion, Lojze Slak (center) on his guest appearance in Detroit in 1990.*



by the U.S. Army in Wuerzburg, Germany.

Since Walter's retirement from the Army, Mary's home life has been more settled. No more transfers, and no more staying behind with the children as when her husband went off to Vietnam and Cambodia, twice, for one-year tours. He started a second career soon after leaving active duty, spending the next twenty years on the staff of the Secretary of Defense in the Pentagon. That, too, is behind them as Mary and Walter have begun to enjoy full retirement.

Mary has three children: Gerald, a printer in Florida; Barbara, who edits scientific journals in Washington, D.C.; and Edward, a career Army officer stationed at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. There are five wonderful grandchildren, two boys and three girls.

Mary's painting in the 1994 Slovenian Women's Union anniversary celebration calendar ("Pears") gives evidence of her artistic talent. Essentially self-taught, she has painted for years. Art lessons have helped her in refining technique but she laments the fact that serious formal instruction might have led to greater success. Still, there are no regrets about having placed her family well ahead of artistic aspirations.

Wife, mother, artist, volunteer – and now retirement. Mary says she has enjoyed every moment. In recent years, she has devoted much time and effort to her Plantan "family tree" project. It entails correspondence with close and distant relatives here and abroad. She has searched passenger arrival records in the National Archives, and dealt with federal and local authorities to get relevant documents. To date, Mary has identified sixteen different Plantans (or Plantons) who departed Slovenia between the 1890's and the post-World War I years to seek their fortunes and start new families in the United States.

Several trips to her parents' natal grounds have helped Mary enhance her Slovenian language skills. These visits have also increased her pride in her Slovene heritage. She

is determined to assist in preserving what is known in this country about Slovenian family life and Slovene culture. To no one's surprise, ZARJA – THE DAWN has become one of her favorite journals. It continually renews her interest in Slovene affairs and keeps track of other Slovene-Americans. "And besides," she says, "it helps me forget about my aches and pains..." Mary has not lost her sense of humor, despite the discomfort of being handicapped. She is happy to be affiliated with Branch 103.

*Reporter*

*Br. 105, Detroit, Michigan*

## **FRANCES KOSHIR ADAMIC**

Born in Detroit, MI, Frances is the younger daughter of the late Joseph and Mary Koshir. Her father was born in Slovenia and her mother, although born in the United States, was raised in Slovenia, returning to the States as a teenager.

As a youngster, Frances and her sister Helen were raised in the old-fashioned Slovenian tradition. They attended picnics, dances and various other ethnic activities. In 1952, Frances graduated from Hazel Park High School.

In 1954, she married Eddie Adamic. For the first 11 years of their marriage they lived in Windsor, Canada, traveling across the border to attend Slovene sponsored events in the Detroit area. They moved to their present home in Warren, MI in 1965.

Mother of two children, Barbara Baloh and Robert, Fran is the grandmother of four. Barbara and her husband, Bruce Baloh have a son, Bruce, Jr. in high school and an aspiring hockey player, and a daughter, Brandy, who at the age of 13 is quite a gifted writer. Robert and his wife, Karen have two adorable little girls, Nicole and Michelle, who will be breaking hearts before we know it.

As our Vice President, Fran is involved in all of our activities and her family is right there working alongside her. Branch 105 members include, Barbara and Brandy Baloh, Karen Adamic and sister, Helen Grasser. We're working on Nicole and Michelle.

Husband Eddie is the leader of the Eddie Adamic Orchestra. They entertain at many of our Slovene events and have played for our annual St. Patrick's Day – Slovenian Style dance. All of the members of the Adamic/Baloh families are very active in the Detroit area Slovene community.

Several of our members were fortunate enough to travel with the Eddie Adamic Orchestra on one of their trips to Slovenia. This was a wonderful experience and, as with everything she does, Fran works very hard to make sure everything runs smoothly.

When the occasion permits, Fran can be seen wearing her authentic Slovenian costume with great pride, a reflection of the great love she has always had for her heritage.

We feel fortunate to have this dynamic and caring woman as a member of Branch 105 and are pleased to honor her as our Mother of the Year at a luncheon to be held at the L-Bow-Room restaurant in Warren, MI on May 13th.

*Patricia Adamic*

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mary Pavlic, reporter for Branch 30, is the featured poet of the month. *DREAMS*, Mary's second selection printed in this column, deals with chronic pain. For years, Mary has endured this condition, and as you read her selection, it will be obvious why she set her pen to writing about her affliction. When Mary sent me her poem she mentioned, "Hopefully, some of the readers who suffer with chronic pain will find hope from it."

Even though she is victimized by this condition, Mary keeps herself extremely busy with all types of projects. Her latest was the establishment of a small research and consulting business entitled, *FIND IT*. Mary is a natural at locating information, objects, or whatever someone may want and can't find. Her persistence coupled with a creative spirit gets results all the time.

Mary is a voracious reader and her latest interest is 19th century ladies' journals, a fascinating topic. She also enjoys painting with watercolors and her special interest is watercolor sketches of old houses. Atlanta, Georgia, the metropolitan area in which she lives, provides many interesting subjects in this category.

Animal lovers may be interested in knowing that Mary is a cat fancier and has bred and showed Persians for ten years. At the present they have two "little girls," named Pastel and Shahara who manage quite well with the cockateil and a fifteen year old poodle. Quite a menagerie!

Along with being a poet, Mary is a wonderful correspondent, conversationalist and friend. I'm sure she'd love to hear from readers who have enjoyed her poem or who suffer from chronic pain. Give her a call at (404) 457-7698.

We look forward to printing other poems from Mary Pavlic's pen in the future.

## POETRY CORNER

Irene M. Odorizzi,  
Heritage Director

# DREAMS

by Mary Pavlic

*I dream of hugs and smiles  
To be able to relax awhile  
Of Hawaii's sunny skies  
Of Don Everly's eyes  
Reservations for a plane  
A day without self-blame  
For the telephone to ring  
"Is there something I can bring  
To brighten up your day?  
Can I help in any way?"  
To read a favorite book  
To just stand up and cook  
Without longing to sit down  
And hide a pain-filled frown  
To sink down in a chair  
With no pain waiting there  
To take a lengthy walk  
To sit for hours and talk  
To get into a car  
And not wonder how far  
I can make it this time  
Without losing my mind  
Thinking only of home  
Not these cushions of foam  
That never ease the hurt  
That only keep me alert  
To drive a few miles  
To escape this exile  
To glance at someone  
When they're having fun  
And not be amazed  
They aren't feeling crazed  
By pain that just stays  
That never goes away  
While I just pretend  
This agony will end  
To not have these thoughts  
Not get overwrought  
Not to feel resentment  
Over their contentment  
To stop being mad  
And stop being sad  
"What would I give  
To live as they live  
What is it like  
To not have those spikes  
Of pain that I dread  
Sitting down or in bed*



*Being active or still  
But, come they will  
How do they ignore  
A body so sore  
When I can't recall  
A time before all  
This happened to me  
Why can't they see  
I wish I could be  
So happy and free"  
I dare to dream  
But it only seems  
A futile hope  
I only cope  
Yes, I coped on Sunday  
Now it's Monday  
I talked with a friend  
And I didn't pretend  
That I am so strong  
That my feelings are wrong  
It's part of the process  
Of living, I guess  
Today is pretty good  
I don't "wish I could"  
There's a meeting tonight  
I'm going to be all right.*



\*\*\*\*\*  
(Please send your poem for inclusion in this column to: Irene Odorizzi, 2362 Paddock Lane, Reston, VA 22091).

Irene M. Odorizzi  
2362 Paddock Lane  
Reston, VA 22091

## THE IMMIGRANT

# PAULA FROM SPODNI KAŠELJ\*

### PART I

In her scuffed winter shoes, and with hurried little steps, Pavla Plevnik made her way through the early morning darkness to Devica Marija v Polju Church, almost a mile from her home. It had snowed lightly the night before and the ground was frozen hard.

She recalled her mother's sharp scolding, "You don't have to go to Church during the week! Sunday Mass is enough!" Paula's mother was more concerned over the chores that needed to be completed in the house and not her daughter's need to attend Mass.



Paula Plevnik in 1906

Pavla answered her mother, "I made a vow for Lent that I would attend one week-day Mass, each week, during the Lenten season."

The real purpose for her attendance on this particular morning was to pray, no, to plead with the Virgin Mary that "it wasn't so." Paula's class at school had been told by the nun who taught catechism, "if ever there is a need to have something important happen, or if you have a really

desperate need, the Virgin Mary will not fail to answer your prayer, if you make it sincerely."

Paula had missed her second period! She was not entirely clear on what this meant but she remembered a conversation among her girl friends, "If you miss your second period it means that you're "caught."

She mentally searched for some possible contradiction to this fact. Again she recalled the nun's words as Sister told the class, "Pray to the Virgin Mary if you are desperate." Paula latched on to these words with desperation. When she arrived at the church she almost ran to the statue of the blue-robed Virgin Mary. She prayed fervently. This was a sincere prayer if ever there was one. Paula devoutly repeated her prayers three or four times. Finally, she began to feel relieved, but not entirely, for in her heart she sensed that something of cosmic dimensions was happening to her.

The warm interior of the church gave her some comfort

but she remained only to hear part of the mass before returning home. She didn't want any more scenes in the house with her mother. Chores were waiting for her, and the gostilna (restaurant-tavern) needed cleaning before the noontime arrival of customers.

A month elapsed. Paula's prayers had not been heard. Then came the third missed period and the horrible admission which had to be made to her mother. She could no longer hide the morning sickness. The simple fact was that she was pregnant as she had expected. Her mother was furious and spared no verbal and physical abuse on Paula.

The baby, a boy, arrived in September of that year. A midwife had been called and there was reasonable attention paid to Paula during this difficult period but an awkwardness prevailed between mother and daughter.

There was now the question of responsibility and a name for the child's christening. Paula was quizzed closely as to the father's identity. She was not sure. It could have been either Felix or Johan Sesek, who were of the Martinček household, a couple of doors away. Both had pursued her but she favored Felix, the younger one, who was a bit taller and more handsome. She had hoped that Felix would stand by her but in this moment of great need he evaded her, denying responsibility. She was at a loss as to how to pressure him.

It could just as well have been Johan. He was an interesting young man but tended to exaggerate. Although, he was presently in the army he did have a trade, working in the paper mill in Vevče (Vevče).

Paula knew that there would be a problem in marrying either young man of the Martinček household as they were considered "cottagers" and not "landowners" like her family, the Rojsheks, owners of the gostilna in the village of Kašelj (Kašelj).

"Homestead names," like Martinček and Rojshek, went back several generations and were part of a social structure which existed in Slovenia. Mina Plevnik, her mother, and now a widow, was not about to let her daughters be married to "cottagers" like the Martinčeks. Finally, it was decided to christen the new arrival, giving him a popular name of the Hapsburg era of Franz Joseph, the Austrian King. He would be named Francelj.

Now, that Paula was a mother, she began to make some decisions. For one thing she arranged that little Francelj would not be raised in the unfriendly Rojshek household. She secretly arranged to have the infant cared for in Zalog by foster parents with the family name of Orehe.

Surprisingly, this decision seemed fine with Paula's mother who did not want little Francelj to be under-foot at the Rojsheks. However, she let it be known in no uncertain terms that it would cost money to have the Orehe family take care of the infant.

Within a month or so Paula made another bold move to free herself, this time, from the constant complaints about the cost of Francelj's upkeep. Paula arranged for the Martinčeks to care for the child since they were almost next-door neighbors. Much to Paula's relief, they were willing to assume responsibility for the youngster on behalf of one of their sons. This was fine with Paula's mother as she could see that there would be a financial saving. Even though she was not keen on the Martinčeks being involved, a secret agreement was arranged between the two families.

\*Spodni Kašelj is near Ljubljana.

Paula could go to the Martincheks to see her child, but the child would not be welcome at the Rojsheks. Under these circumstances Paula began to think of ways to escape.

Escape? There was a way! Paula's sister, Johanna, had gone to America six years earlier. Paula thought, "How lucky for Johanna to have freed herself from our mother's stern rules." Roza, another sister, seeing little future as a daughter in the Rojshek household had followed, but only to work for Johanna as a maid.

Both girls were now married and from their letters, both seemed very happy. It was so obvious! This was the way to escape -- go to America. Even her Uncle Jože had written of the wonderful things in the new country. So Paula quickly wrote a letter to Johanna asking, "Will you send me the money for passage to America?"

Johanna seriously considered the letter from her sister. Johanna and her husband, Frank Mochilnikar, owned a grocery store and operated a small boarding house in Cleveland. Since she enjoyed the life of a business woman more than that of a housewife, someone was badly needed for the household chores and for helping with the children. Paula could be of great help so they sent her the necessary passage.

The possibility of leaving her home in Kashelj became a reality and Paula was scheduled to travel to America but without her child -- at least for the time being. When she arrived in Cleveland, Ohio, Paula was to begin working for Johanna, replacing Roza, who had married Frank Marn, one of Johanna's boarders.

Francelj was now six months old but in good hands at the Martinchek's. He would remain with them until she could send for him. So with no apparent objections from her mother, and with very little preparation, Paula left Slovenia early in April of 1911.

Johan Sesek was in the army at the time and had written very pleasant postcards to Paula and so she left with hopes that he would follow her to America when his military obligation was completed. Even if Johan did not come through, she could marry someone else in the States, with the long range plan of including her little Francelj with her new family. But she kept this option to herself. After all, it was a "long shot." If necessary, she would remain single and eventually send for her son.

On Paula's arrival in Cleveland, her sister, Johanna received her pleasantly as did her sister Roza. Uncle Jože Plevnik seemed most cordial and offered what assistance she might need.

Things looked good right from the start, but then came another blow -- the second one of her young life. Paula was pregnant again! This time she was familiar with all the signals. Paula quickly confided to her sister Johanna, reluctantly, of course, but it was a necessity. As she feared, Johanna was furious. "To think! To think! Johanna shouted at her. "I went to all this trouble to get you here, paying



Frank Mochilnikar's Grocery Store

for your passage and now it turns out that you are pregnant!"

Considerable coolness arose between the two sisters, much like the coolness between Paula and her mother when Francelj was born two years earlier. Finally, Johanna calmed down, reconsidered the situation and took on her sister's responsibility by saying, "You can stay here and work for me until it is time to have the baby. After the baby is born, come back to work for me again." Johanna continued with the remaining portion of the agreement. "For the rest of your life, Paula, when you cross the threshold of my home, remember that it was me, your sister, Johanna, that came to your rescue in your time of great need." Paula accepted these terms, she could do little else, but in her heart the acceptance was reluctantly given.

She had been allowed a small room upstairs above the grocery store on St. Clair Avenue, where there were also rooms for boarders. Johanna and her family had lived downstairs.

The use of midwives was not as widely practiced in the U.S. as in Slovenia and so Paula's baby was born in a hospital. There was a bill to be paid, which Johanna took care of, taking the money back in due course by deductions from Paula's wages, such as they were.

An awkward situation occurred at the hospital prior to Paula's release. It was necessary that the husband sign a



Johan Sesek in his army uniform



**Paula and Johan Sesek on their wedding day, 1913**

release for the infant. This, of course, was impossible so, after some delay, Paula was allowed to leave with her baby. He was christened, John, after Johan Sesek, who by now appeared to have accepted responsibility for the child.

Options of Paula's finding a husband in America, as Rosa had done, were no longer available. Who would marry her now, with an infant and a child, still in Slovenia? Paula's real and only hope was that Johan would come through. He continued to correspond with her, still mostly through post cards, but warmly worded, and sent from different army locations.

To her great joy, Johan promised to come to America when he was discharged from the army. Meanwhile, in Slovenia, there were discussions at the Martinček homestead that Johan was to be assisted with passage money to America.

Paula's mother, on occasion, sent her a card, indicating that she was willing to forgive, but not as openheartedly as she might have. Ivan, her brother, still way at school, continued to send nice letters as did her younger sister Francka.

Most important, Paula received pleasant letters from the Martinček family, describing Francelj's progress. He was a healthy, growing boy, and the Seseks seemed pleased to be raising him. She also learned that if little Francelj wandered over he was never welcome at his grandmother Plevnik's home, just two doors away. It was always an interesting and active place. The big farm with horses being taken out to the fields in the morning, the gostilna with an occasional wedding or christening taking place, all these things attracted the curious boy but he was always shooed away -- as though he had come to beg. He might have begged, as small boys could always get a tasty piece of bread, if they put on an appealing smile.

By now, Johanna had four children of her own. It was a nuisance to have Paula bring her two-year old, Johnny downstairs to play with her children. Paula had been wel-

come to come downstairs for small social visits, after all she was Johanna's sister, as well as an employee, but little Johnny was certainly not welcome. If he cried, or upset a bowl of food on the floor, Johanna firmly dictated, "Paula take him away and don't bring him back." The message was clearly branded upon her.

Paula took this rejection of her son very much to heart and vowed to have Francelj join her as soon as she could arrange it because she knew that she would never return to Slovenia.

Johan kept his word. With the help of his brothers, he collected enough money for passage to America. Late in 1913, he left the "old country." On Johan's arrival in Cleveland, plans were made immediately for the wedding. Paula was ecstatic. She knew the marriage was not made in heaven, but she vowed to make it work. She was now at last free; free of her mother, and free of her sister, Johanna.

Now, everything was going to be all right. Johan was actually there and he would take care of her and she would take care of him. The wedding was set for the following month, December, 1913. Quickly, Johan secured a job, a good job, for those days, at the "HP" works (Hot Point), a nail factory of the U.S. Steel Company. He earned twelve dollars a week, worked twelve hours per day, six days a week. The wedding looked as if it would cost about \$100 -- a lot of money, but Frank Močilnikar, Paula's brother-in-law, was decent about it. He advanced the money in the form of food from the store: chicken, ham, cigars, the makings for the festive "potica" and all the other specialties. Jože Plevnik, Paula's uncle, volunteered the beverage, "I'll supply the wine. Pay me back when you can, Johan. There's no hurry!"

The wedding dinner needed to be prepared and Paula's sister, Roza Marn, handled that task. Frank, Roza's husband, even offered money, "Johan you need a "Sunday" suit. Buy one that you can wear as your wedding suit."

Paula and Johan were married at St. Vitus Church, the Slovenian church just off St. Clair Ave. A small hall was rented for the wedding reception and an accordionist hired to play the polkas and the waltzes for dancing. A goodly number of people attended -- all Slovenians. Many guests residing in Cleveland were from Zalog, a neighboring village of Kashelj. There were recent immigrants living mostly in the Slovenian community on St. Clair Ave. There were the Breskvars, Bencinas, Krivces, Plevniks, Natze (Nace) Černe, and the Marins including Frank's brother, Martin.

To Paula, it was a notable day. At the wedding banquet, all were seated for the traditional unveiling of the bride. When this had taken place, someone began to sing the traditional song, "Slovensko Dekle" (Slovenian Girl). All guests present joined in the singing.

Paula knew the custom. She lowered her head, for the singing was for her. Then her eyes began to fill with tears and she made a fervent pledge, a vow deeper than the "yes" she expressed at the altar when the priest asked, "Do you take this man..."

The pledge she made, as the singing continued, was to be a good wife, and a good mother as every Slovenian woman in the past. It was traditional, but to Paula it took on the fullest meaning. She knew the beautiful words of the song and she whispered them to herself. They were written for the young bride to give her a certain solemnity and

## Earliest Slovene Settlers in American History

### Part I

In an effort to acquaint ZARJA readers with information about the very early Slovene pioneers to America, the following article written by Jože Zaverčnik in the book, "Ameriški Slovenci" and translated by Joseph Drasler, is being presented for your reading enjoyment.

It is with pride that we look back on these pioneers and realized that they participated in the formative years of our country. Slovenians were here! We should publicize this fact whenever we can.

John Witine was among the first Slovene settlers in America. He came here around 1852 and began his career as a backpeddler, then moved westward to seek his fortune.

He once panned gold on the site where Leadville, Colo., is now located. Enduring extremely difficult times there, as gold prospectors had to practically live off the land, he departed Colorado and travelled to the state of Utah in search of gold and other valuable ores.

When he first came to Salt Lake City it was nothing more than a small village. Prospectors played cards for small pieces of gold which Americans referred to as "nuggets," and for chicken eggs which were highly-prized delicacies among the gold seekers.

From Utah he moved on to Montana where he continued panning for gold around Montana City, which was one of the liveliest cities during the days of gold prospecting in the West. At the present time, only the wreckage of mining operations remain on the site of that once busy city. He also spent some time prospecting in the city of Helena, Mont.

Upon his return to Chicago, he married and opened a saloon on Halsted and 19th Street, which he sold, then opened another on Taylor and Lincoln Streets.

Another Slovene pioneer in America was Joseph Stalcar who came here in 1855. He worked in Chicago for a short time then opened a retail store dealing in various everyday necessities. Later he sold his business and departed for Kansas where he settled on a farm.

He returned to Chicago in 1881, and after working a while for the Meyer Company he opened his own food store. Stalcar lived to a ripe old age and saw his family grow over four generations – his son, Joseph Stalcar, his grandson and great grandson's families.

John Stonich Sr. arrived in New Orleans in 1855 in a sailboat. He was on the ocean for 96 days. He served in the Civil War as a volunteer, returning home with the title of lieutenant. After the war he settled in Chicago where he died in 1915.

Matt Malnarich from Enumclaw, Wash., reported that the first two Slovene immigrants in California were Stefan Kocevar from Sernica, Slovenia, and Jozef Stukel.

They were both settled in California in 1858 and prospected for gold there. Stefan Kocevar returned to the old country in 1865. His stories told about American life excited great interest among the people, especially when he talked about gold and showed American gold pieces which he claimed were worth fifty goldinars each.

*(To be continued)*

dignity for this most important event of her life. Paula knew what it meant to be a good mother, recalling examples from Slovenia. She knew that all the brides had made their commitment at the ceremony unveiling while this special song was sung.

#### SLOVENSKO DEKLE

*Venček na glavi se  
bliska iz kitice,  
ročic zelenih. –  
slovensko dekle!*

*Lilija, vrtmica,  
mila ti šmarnica,  
ličice krasi, –  
slovensko dekle!*

*Žlahtna kot trtica,  
mila kot lunica,  
sonce deklet je, –  
slovensko dekle!*

*Dokler slovenski rod  
biva, po zemlji hod',  
bode slovelo, –  
slovensko dekle!*

As these thoughts invaded her mind, she was unaware of the singing. Then suddenly the surroundings merged into reality and she heard distinctly the beautiful bass voice of Frank Marn, and the joyous tenor of Jože Plevnik, in beautiful harmony, as was customary when Slovenians sing together. Again, she was reminded that all this singing, at this moment, was for her, and it was real; it was wonderful.

Paula had dreamt of this day for a long time and now it was actually happening! She could hardly believe it. At this moment she was a queen in her own right. She made one final, fervent expression of her vow. She would fulfill, completely, the expectations of a Slovenian bride and accept the commitment which it implied in a special way.

The song was over, the toasts were drunk and Paula took a glass of wine upon the urgings of the guests. Wine was plentiful and everyone was of such good will. She thanked both her sisters and they wished her many years of happiness.

TO BE CONTINUED

## THE FIRST LADY

May is the SWU Convention month, which has given me cause to reflect on the many conventions attended by the First Lady and founder of the SWU, Marie Prisland. In my limited archives of information on this very formidable organizer of Slovenian women, I noticed a copy of a speech she made to the delegates at the Pittsburgh Convention in 1976.

Since May 19-21, will mark the twenty-second SWU National Convention, it is an appropriate time to accent Mrs. Prisland's participation in a past convention. Her comments are of a historical nature, since she reflects in a very personal way on the formation of this organization and its achievements of 50 years. (See page 27.)

Hopefully, the ZARJA readers, as well as the delegates to the San Francisco Convention, will be stimulated by our founder's words. Mrs. Prisland will be "spiritually" present at the convention inspiring each delegate to make sensible decisions, which will allow the SWU to continue into the 21st century with a flourish. Let us add to the achievements of the past and set additional goals for the survival of our Slovenian heritage in the future.

May God give us the wisdom we need for this convention.



As always, Marie Prisland demonstrated her leadership at the National Convention in Washington, D.C. in 1976, paying tribute at the gravesite of U.S. President, John F. Kennedy at Arlington National Cemetery. It was the last Convention she attended before her passing, Sept. 13, 1979.

## PRIDE IN SWU MEMBERSHIP

There are times when we take our Slovenian heritage for granted and there are times when we fail to realize that being a member of the Slovenian Women's Union should be a source of pride to us.

Recently, I received a letter from a non-Slovenian lady, married to an American-Slovenian. Sabina Bartol is a SWU member who served as President of Branch 103 for two years. Her illness prohibited her from accepting another term of office. I'd like to share parts of her letter with you.

*"...I have always felt very proud and eager to be a worthy member of so fine an organization as our Slovenian Women's Union.*

*I was blessed with special-in-laws. My mother-in-law, whom I never knew, died when Johnny was eight. His father and I enjoyed a good relationship. I always felt grateful to both of them for my marriage to Johnny for 53 years.*

*Johnny was so pleased when our daughter, Loretta and I joined Branch 103. So, I always tried to make my membership a tribute to his parents. Also, I am eager for Loretta, and our son, Michael, to know something of their dad's proud-spirited heritage..."*

Sabina has been widowed for a few years but she continues to be a vital supporter of the branch activities and donates generously to many charitable projects.

She is representative of the many members of the SWU who are not Slovenian but are avid supporters of our Slovenian Heritage. How fortunate the organization is to have these members as part of our special group.

## San Francisco was their home

A member from Branch 103, Sabina Bartol, remembers living in San Francisco many years ago. She married John Bartol's son and they lived at 541 Utah St. just a few blocks from the Slovenian Home. Mr. Bartol was very active in the Slovenian Organizations in San Francisco at this time.

Sabina relates an interesting episode from many years past. Since she was not Slovenian, she preferred to attend a Mass in a church where the American language was spoken. Her father-in-law however insisted that his son, Sabina and the baby, Loretta attend the Slovenian Mass every Sunday with him. When they asked why they should attend two Masses, his response was, "it's good for you."

Sabina remembers Grandpa Bartol telling baby Loretta to be good before she went into the church and that the little tyke behaved herself quite properly!

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# ADDRESS OF MARIE PRISLAND

## Salutations To All!

It was a sunny day in October, 1926, when the M.A. Council of Catholic Women held its national convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. About 2,000 delegates and members were present. I attended the convention as a delegate from our Slovenian Catholic Church in Sheboygan.

Never in my life did I hear such a beautiful tribute given to women as the one given by Bishop Schrembs, the Council's Spiritual Advisor from Cleveland, Ohio, in his message to the convention. It almost made me cry when thinking how these American women are honored for their work – and that Slovenian women are doing almost the same work, maybe even more difficult, by raising large families and taking boarders in to help the family budget, but never receiving one single word praise from anyone. Why – America does not even know that we are here!

I started to dream of how wonderful, wonderful, it would be if we, the Slovenian women, would have an organization like this. Not as large, of course, but even a "little bitzi one" would be fine. It would unite us who are scattered all over America, bring us together where we could meet with each other, talk to each other, make friends, discuss ideas important to us and to get to know America better. This dream I composed in words and had them published in the *Amerikanski Slovenec Daily* on October 20, 1926. The newspaper was then published in Chicago.

It looked like the Slovenian women were just waiting for such a call. Personal letters and newspaper articles came from the East, West, North and South with the demand: "Yes, we want our own organization!" and the Slovenian Women's Union was born on December 19, 1926, in Chicago. The Sheboygan Branch and the Chicago Branch gave the Union its foundation.

Our aims were:

- to unite women of Slovenian descent residing in the United States of America.
- to assist its members in their moral, social and intellectual education.
- to foster Slovenian and American ideals and to preserve Slovenian culture.

- to assist members to obtain American citizenship and to council them to understand their rights and duties as American citizens.
- to encourage participation in American local and national civic affairs.
- to seek affiliation with other national women's organizations who support their programs for the advantage of womanhood.
- to arrange and to provide for an adequate funeral for deceased members.

50 years of hard work, enthusiastically carried out by our wonderful officers and members, produced the following:

We united 10,000 Slovenian women, issued a book of historical pages entitled "Ameriška Slovenka" (American Slovenian Woman) in 1928. A year later we founded our official publication "ZARJA, The Dawn" which is still going strong. We issued a song book named *Zapojmo, Let's Sing!* to preserve Slovenian songs for posterity. During the last World War, 2,874 members were engaged in Red Cross work. The first American war casualty was Louis Dobnikar, a son of one of our members. In 1949 we started to grant student scholarships. As of this date 83 grants were given to 79 students. A cookbook, "Women's Glory – The Kitchen", was issued in 1952. Since its first inception the book has been revised and printed several times, presently having 724 recipes, including one by your Pennsylvania First Lady Mrs. Schapp, and today the book can be found in 40,000 American households. Presently we have a plan to re-print Dr. Frank J. Kern's English-Slovenian dictionary into a pocket size edition to help students in the study of the Slovenian language.

I believe that every member here tonight, and those who are at home, can be proud of their organization's achievements.

Thank You

*Marie Prisland*

*May, 1976*

*Pittsburgh, Penna.*

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## MOTHERHOOD – WOMANHOOD = SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION

**Slovenian Women's Union was organized by a MOTHER with WOMANLY idealism that was called to action in 1926, at a time when our Slovenian immigrant women were compelled to draw together and become SISTERS!**

**Now, in May, 1995, our goal becomes more focused on our heritage!**

## THE GRUELING TASK OF HAVING TO RAISE MONEY!

No matter who you are or where you live, everyone, at some time or another, faces "the fund-raiser." He either comes to your door, or reaches you by mail. He either talks to you at a meeting, or in an institution. How can you get rid of all that "junk mail" that comes to your door all the time, imposing on your time and privacy. How do you get rid of that nuisance of the guy with the basket in his hand who gives you that hard-luck story. If you do listen to him (or her) how can you be sure that your hard earned money is going to the right place, where it's intended, and not in the guy's pocket.

That's one side.

Then, there's the person who gives. He may be generous and willing to give if he feels it's worthwhile to do so. Or... he may want something back for his money. Take the political candidate for instance... or the government lobbyist... or the professional national fund-raiser who goes into million dollar projects. These people definitely want something back for their generous donations.

That's the second part.

Now we have seen both sides.

One thing for certain... money, and the need for it, is right up there with health! You gotta have both! Or at least, you want to have both! Yes, no matter where you live, everyone, at some time or another, faces fund-raising and no matter how you look at it... or what side you are on, it's a difficult place to be.

I am applying these ideas now to the problem of fund-raising facing our organization. The Slovenian Women's Union needs funds that are not coming from the primary source, simply because our income base is so low. We have less than 6,000 members and what they pay is a low assessment.

Budgeted into our operation is one large expense, our publication, ZARJA-THE DAWN. To cover that expense we have two possibilities. First is to increase the membership base. Second is to raise extra funds from the members we have.

Both these solutions will be do-able with your help. Our new SWU Brochure may be a workable tool for you to use when approaching prospects, talking to your family members and friends and enrolling them as members. The material sent to you in recent mail and appealing to you for a donation is right in line with the second solution.

Can you do one, or the other? Can you be a part of the solution?

\* \* \*

The most beautiful part of the Slovenian Women's Union is the membership. We are sisters who have many common values and interests. We love our heritage and work to promote it. We are a support group for our sisterhood in all the communities where we live. Our groups function within the sphere of charitable endeavors. We have many reasons to be proud of our work for the past 68 years.

So, what's holding us up? I think it's only one thing. We have to want it enough to do it. And, if we do not want it enough, we'll never accomplish this task. We can't wait for someone else to do it for us. It's like losing weight. You can talk about it, read about it, join classes for it, and yet, it won't happen until you **want** to do it.

Do we want to do it, enough?

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## ADVERTISING IS A BONUS IN ZARJA

**Most of the advertising you see in ZARJA has been with us for many years. We seldom lose any because it is so reasonable (Business people DO need some adv. deductions for business purposes), and secondly, it reaches over 6,000 homes, nationwide, which provides a powerful message.**

**If you are looking for that slight edge to make your business perk up – or know of someone who is, please get in touch with us and we will be happy to include them in our special family of advertisers!**

## WHAT WOULD WE DO WITHOUT THEM?

*Children are the most precious blessing that God gives the world. Grandchildren are even sweeter morsels as we see in them all the best characteristics of a family. What better time than on Mother's Day for us to recognize that life would just not be the same without them? The minute a baby is born, mother and father's life changes and indeed, they do not remember the reality of happiness before the blessed event.*

*When I received the article on page 13 from Carita Girman, our Scholarship Director and daughter of our National Secretary and her husband, Olga and Ed Ancel, my thoughts on the obvious experience of motherhood re-formulated into the quintessential meaning of motherhood. And, I believe that Carita, a modern, sensitive mother teaches us all an enlightened perspective on what it really means to be a mom.*

*Carita submitted this essay to the Indy's Child publication in her home town of Indianapolis, Indiana and received a Runner-up prize! Congratulations, Carrie, and thank you for sharing your feeling with us.*

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### Your Comments:

- Enjoy reading Zarja – keep up the good work!
- The cards are beautiful and I look forward to reading Zarja.
- Such lovely cards. I'll use them with pride.
- A Great Magazine! Enjoy it very much.
- I think it's wonderful to see Slovenian art work.
- I like the cards. Just located a Slovenian relative and it's a great card to send her. Hope to visit Slovenia this summer.
- I enjoy the Dawn.
- May all members contribute to this cause. Good luck to you.
- Good luck. I love the Zarja.
- Enjoy the Dawn very much.
- The cards are beautiful. Wishing you success in this endeavor, to insure the future of Zarja. Always look forward eagerly to receiving it.

# ACTIVITIES

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## NO. 1, SHEBOYGAN, WI

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We had our April meeting, Tuesday the 18th at Father Cherne Hall. There will be no May meeting. Our next meeting will be June 13th at Shoney's. This will be our Mother of the Year meeting and banquet. We will honor all mothers and ladies of Branch 1 at this meeting. If interested please call Ruth 452-8251. Thank you.

We will be able to have a report from Kathy Schroeder on the National Convention in CA. I'm sure she will have lots to tell us and pictures?

We lost a good long-time member in March. Helen Valentic; she had been a member for 53 years and was 95 years old. May she rest in peace.

Get well wishes to all our members who are in nursing homes in the area or are ill at home. Our prayers are with you.

The weather has been beautiful for March - We hoped to be able to wear our Easter Bonnets on April 16th!

Happy belated Easter to all.

DOROTHY BREZONIK

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## NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

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We had a nice turnout for the celebration of our "St. Joseph Table/St. Patrick Day" - we were very happy also the weather was on our side. As always, Ray Nusko had the hall all decorated in red and green. Our president, Fran, extended a warm welcome to our sisters of St. Stephen's School, Father Kalist, and all our friends who joined us for the celebration. After Father's blessing of the food, we all enjoyed a great supper and all the delicious desserts. Congratulations to Fr. Kalist who will be celebrating the 60th Anniversary of his Priesthood on Sunday, May 21 - Mass and banquet at St. Stephen's.

At our meeting, we discussed the National Convention. Members suggested things they wanted brought up. So far, we have 16 members who will be attending and we are all looking forward

to a great Convention and a fun time. We were also happy to hear that Mayme Muller will be attending the National Convention. We wish all the officers, delegates and alternates a successful meeting. We will hear from those attending at our June meeting, hopeful they will bring pictures so we all can enjoy a little bit of San Francisco. "Srečno pot vsem članom po celi Ameriki ki bodo potovali v Californio za našo Konvencijo."

We will be honoring Jennie Worth as our "Woman of the Year." Please remember our meeting will take place on **May 4**, (one week earlier) because Jennie's son Joe works in the florist and it is the busiest time of the year for those people. Mass is at 6:30 p.m. with the Crowning of the Blessed Mother. Dinner will follow in the church hall.

Jennie Kovacic is back from her trip to Slovenija; she was very happy and excited to see the land of her family roots. Met some of her cousins for the first time and visited many places which she heard about from her parents.

We are very sorry to report that our Flag was draped again for three lost members. Our condolences to the families of Mildred Rowinski, Mary Koscak and Rose Moline. Please remember them in your prayers.

Also, remember in your prayers our members who are ill: Josephine Intihar, Minnie Roschay, Barbara Jakubowski, Bob Melissa, Eugene Kochiniarczak, Theresa Rhoads, Anna Mladic, Kay Tuzak, Mary Slabe, Betty Veber, Antonette Asich, Irene Carter, Patty Zubek Zeleznak and all those members who have been suffering from respiratory problems this year (and there have been so many of us). Let's all get well so we can enjoy the summer!

And especially "Zveza Day Picnic"...

### PICNIC: JULY 16, 1995

Our Zveze Day celebration affords us the opportunity as a family to preserve the richness of our Slovenian culture. **Please join us - Everyone wel-**

**come!!!** To be held at: St. Mary Seminary, 1400 W. Main St., Lemont, IL - Sunday - **July 16. Mass** 11:00 a.m. Benediction and litany 2:30 p.m. - Picnic on the grounds after Mass. Fun for everyone: Games for children and adults; live music; refreshments and good food. Prizes. Plan to be there for a great day.

Cheer Basket: Please remember to bring items for our basket. There so many people who depend on us for a few items each week. During summer while we do not have meetings, you can bring your donations to St. Stephen's rectory. Thank you for your generosity.

June 6 - **Block party** to benefit St. Stephen's parish at the corner of Wolcott and 22nd place - and both parking lots. Fun and food for everyone.

Our Altar Society wishes to thank everyone for making the Bunco a success.

Happy Mother's Day and Father's Day to all parents. Give them a great big hug.

Love,

DAISY

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## NO. 3, PUEBLO, CO

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Prior to our meeting March 7, a beautiful tribute was given for Christine Mehle who passed away in March.

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by President Margaret Cullen. The usual order of business was transacted with minutes and reports given and approved. Eileen Kaplan, Financial Secretary, thanked the women who so generously donated cards and stamps.

Reported on the sick list were Rose Zupancic, Josephine Giarratano, Anna Germ and Mary Tekavec. Eileen Boitz, who was on the sick list and at the Life Care Center is now at home.

The drawing was held for the mystery gift donated by Margaret Cullen and won by Eileen Kaplan.

A welcome was given to members Elsie Medonich, Juanita Blatnick and Del Kogovsek and they were told that

we would enjoy having them come again.

After the meeting, refreshments were served. Hostesses were Agnes Cvar and Gertrude Jordan. "B" was then played.

Congratulations are in order for Ursula and Charles Perko on the birth of a son. Josephine and Charles Perko and Anna Knific are grandparents.

On a sad note, our condolences go out to the families of Christine Mehle, Pauline Butkovich, and Juanita Knafelc.

St. Mary's Parish is getting ready to celebrate their 100th anniversary in May. The church is being painted and there are numerous activities planned. This is really something to look forward to.

Work is proceeding on the Slovenian Museum in the school building and it is hoped it will be ready soon. This is a wonderful project to retain our Slovenian heritage and should be enjoyed by all. The work the volunteers have done and will do and Bernice Krasovec's efforts are greatly appreciated.

A reminder - don't forget our homebound and those in nursing homes. Also, our next meeting will be held May 2 at 1:00 p.m.

PAULINE PAUCHICK

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#### NO. 5, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

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Branch 5 is sorry to announce that another member has passed away. Judeta Marchig was 96 years young when she died in March. Judeta has been living in Michigan with her daughter, Dorothy. Branch 5 offers our deepest sympathy to Judeta's family, especially her daughter and son and all of her grandchildren.

Reminder for May! Our social meeting is being held May 18, 1995. We are meeting as usual at the Slovenian National Home at 11:00 a.m. We request that you bring a covered dish and we will provide the meat. We will be honoring our Mothers of the Year, so please plan to attend.

Branch 5 is please to announce the engagement of one of its members. Jennifer Mohr plans to wed Brad Norris on August 19, 1995 in Texas. Jennifer is the daughter of Bob and Mary Frances Mohr. Yes, this is the third wedding when Bob is having to paying the

costs! You can give him regrets if you ever see him.

Any dues not paid will be collected at the May meeting. Call Mary Frances Mohr if you are not sure of the amount owed, (317) 852-8305. If you have any news you would like to include in our newsletter column just let Barbara know at (214) 404-0637 or Mary Frances at (317) 852-8305. We will gladly include the news of all of our members.

Until next month, take care of yourselves and hope you are feeling better.

With love from Texas,

BARBARA MOHR



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#### NO. 6, BARBERTON, OH

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*Lord, who ordainst for mankind  
Benignant toils and tender cares,  
We thank thee for the ties that bind  
The mother to the child she bears.  
We thank thee for the hopes that rise  
within her heart, as, day by day,  
The dawning soul, from those young  
eyes,  
Look with a clearer, steadier ray.  
"Van Dyke"*

May is upon us. Mother's Day again. Cannot possibly pick one out of our branch. Everyone is deserving of a crown. God bless all mothers!

Birthdays for May are Mary Obreza (9th), Ann Belovec (31st), Mary Kovacic (28th) and Linda Lambright (28th).

Looking for Pat Good. Her old address is not working. Can't get the Dawn to her. Any information, please contact me.

Pauline Barberich was in the hospital past two months, with a successful operation on the removal of left leg. She now is at Wyant Nursing Home, 200 Wyant Road, Akron, Ohio 44313.

Thanks to all the ladies for prayers and well-wishers. It was appreciated.

Again, best wishes to all the ladies of Branch 6 on Mother's Day and God bless all of you.

JEANETTE KILLORAN, President  
LINDA LAMBRIGHT, Secretary

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#### NO. 10, CLEVELAND, OH

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A meeting was held March 22nd. Prayers were said for our sick and deceased members. Minutes were read and treasurer's reports given.

Our Pres. Stefie Segulin is our representative for the National Convention held in San Francisco in May. We wish the convention much success.

Stefie Segulin was selected as our Woman of the Year, 1995. Congratulations! A dinner in her honor was held April 26th at Collinwood Slovenian Home on Holmes.

Our best wishes for a happy, healthy birthday to our members, the twins, Faye Moro and Joyce LeNassi.

Get well wishes to all our sick members. My sister, Helen Strumble fell and broke her ankle, Ann Kozinski had surgery and Sylvia Jansa is also ill. To you all, our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Deepest sympathy to the families of Veronica Vulich and Louise Fabec. May they rest in peace.

Meeting was adjourned, raffle held and delicious baked goods brought by our members were enjoyed. Many thanks to all members who keep their dues paid up. To be a member means that dues must be kept up to date.

To all members who are so generous with donations to Br. 10, many thanks. Happy related holidays and keep healthy!

Our 50 year member for 1995 is Jennie Schultz who will be honored. Congratulations to Jennie!

ANN STEFANCIC

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#### NO. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI

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A beautiful day for a meeting in March and we had a great attendance. We discussed our Mother's Day, honoring Ann Jelinek. For years, Ann has been a big contributor to our branch and is well-deserving of our recognition.

One of our members, Josephine Kastelic was celebrating her 90th birthday on March 28th. She is at St. Joan Antida Nursing Home. Welcome back, Bernice Blazek, we missed you at our meetings. Bernice had a good excuse, however. She took care of her aunt who passed away; with her problems and visiting her mother, you are an angel.

The branch expressed sympathy to Lil Hartmann whose brother passed away.

Two of our transfer members are big travelers. Nell Zeitlow is going to Hinckley, Minn. (Don't let the one-arm bandits get you!) and in July she is going to Maine. Florence Guenther went to Arizona and soon will visit her son and family in Virginia.

Sylvia Kotze's son, Michael was getting married in Chicago (April 1st) and we planned to go in grand style. She had a Badger Bus for us, so we wouldn't have to drive. How thoughtful.

Dolores Kodrich made "green" bread so we had green sandwiches for March meeting lunch to go along with soup. This girl is really talented and her home-made punchkis are out-of-this-world. Dolores is our recording secretary. Glad you retired! A big thank you to all who baked and helped Phyllis in the kitchen.

Carolyn Imperl came along with her sister, Josephine and was so impressed with the members and meeting she joined us as a social member. She said she can't wait for the next meeting.

Here it is, the end of March (as I write) and we do not have all the books and money from Br. 17 for the transferred members. We discussed it at the meeting and hope this will be taken care of soon. We heard some members express their feelings - saying they brought trouble to us. No way! We welcome you warmly and are glad you will attend our meetings. Your expressions of happiness is all we want from you!

Remember, May 18th is the Mother's Day meeting. You must sign up. Remember, our meetings are at St. Peter's Episcopal Church on So. 80th and Lincoln Ave. (alley entrance) every 3rd Thursday of the month except in July and August.

Happy Mother's Day to all! To our sick and shut-in members, have a good day today!

MARY KIEL

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### NO. 13, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

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I have just returned from attending the Board of Directors meeting in Joliet. The meetings were very long and very intense because there was so much to discuss with this being a Con-

vention Year. I will say I am proud to be a part of this working group, and we did give 100% to this meeting. It will be a very challenging Convention. I know here in San Francisco, we are very excited and very prepared for one of the best Conventions ever. Barbara Chiodo has done a magnificent job as you can read in the past issues of ZARJA. The response has been far above what we expected and we are so grateful we have someone like Barbara as Chairman. As our slogan says, "San Francisco Welcomes you"!!!!

I know all of Branch 13 sends "hugs" and a big thank you to Irene Odorizzi, Heritage Director for her outstanding job in the last two Zarjas honoring our Branch. What this wonderful lady did with so little information given to her is remarkable. There was much research on her part in the back issues of ZARJA. Many, many thanks to Irene and Editor, Corinne Leskovar for the wonderful coverage of Potrero Hill, Slovenian Hall and our Branch 13.

We will not be having our usual Women of the Year Brunch this year because of the two Banquets at the Convention. We will be honoring all our ladies. Last month we had our Spring Luncheon and B Party. Everyone had a great time and food was delicious as usual. Thanks, again President Josephine.

THE SECRET OF HAPPINESS IS ... the determination to BE happy always, rather than wait for outer circumstances to make one happy.

BEVERLY JACKSON

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### NO. 14, EUCLID, OH

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We've survived a remarkably mild winter which has caused several false growing starts for our spring flowering bulbs. Hopefully warm spring days will soon bring these flowers into full bloom for our enjoyment.

Pres. Martha Koren announced at our March meeting that immediately following this meeting she and husband, Ed were leaving for Homer City, Penna. to attend the funeral of Ed's mother who died at the age of 98. Ed's sister had just passed away the previous week. Our deepest sympathy to the Koren family.

Condolences to the family of Mary Grill of South Geneva, Ohio where she and her late husband ran a dairy farm

from 1941-1982. Mary had been a resident at Slovene Home for Aged for the past 12 years. May our beloved departed find everlasting peace and comfort in the arms of our Dear Lord and His Mother Mary.

Josephine Lustig, mother of Ilene Collins, is recuperating back at the Slovene Home for Aged after a stay in the hospital. Mary Sentic is on the mend after a brief illness. Speedy recovery wishes to all of our members who are ailing.

Looking forward to our annual Mother of the Year dinner honoring Stana Grill on Tuesday, May 2. Call Vice Pres. Vera Bajec for reservations at 481-7473.

A joyous and happy Mothers Day to all mothers!

ALICE KUCHAR

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### NO. 16, SO. CHICAGO, IL

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Congratulations to Kathy and Bruce Korosa for 10 years on Radio WJOL in Joliet, IL with their Polkas on Tour program. A banquet was held on April 9th, 1995 at the Polonia Banquets South in Tinley Park.

Did everyone enjoy the documentary on TV of Frankie Yankovic, "America's Polka King"? Frank will be 80 years old on July 28, 1995. Please write to the White House asking Pres. Clinton to honor him on his birthday with the Medal of Freedom Award which he deserves for the many years he has been entertaining us with his beautiful music. Write Pres. Clinton, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. 20500.

We extend deepest sympathy to Helen and John Battista on the death of Helen's brother, Tony Franko.

Madelin Jerich just returned from an extended visit with her sister in Florida.

Mary Rago, her son, Jim and a Technician from the University of Chicago, Evelyn King, spent several days abroad including 9 days in London and 5 days in Paris. Shortly after her return she had her in-laws visiting from Florida. Gladys Buck traveled via Amtrack to Lakeland, MN to spend several days with her niece, Barbara and Tom Ireland and sons, Jason and Kelly. They all drove back to Chicago and then, Indianapolis. While here, the visitors went to Michael Jordan's restaurant and bought some souvenirs.

# A SINCERE THANK YOU TO OUR "KEEP OUR CONNECTION!" CONTRIBUTORS

## January, February, March, 1995:

### California-Oregon-Washington

Mary Suran (30) Midvale, Utah	\$25.00	
Memory of Mary Ansel (13) from daughter Edythe Ansel, San Francisco, CA	10.00	
Mary Piunti (30), Fort Heuneme, CA	1.20	\$ 36.20

### Colorado-Kansas-Missouri

Memory of Olga Papish (46) from husband Raymond Papish, St. Louis, MO		10.00
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### Illinois-Indiana

Memory of Mary Koscak (2) from daughter Marie Tiedmann, Chicago, IL		10.00
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### Minnesota

Frances Bogatich (30) West St. Paul, MN	\$1.20	
Elizabeth Skube (23), Ely, MN	30.00	31.20

### Ohio-Michigan

Irene Jagodnik (50) North Tarrytown, NY	\$100.00	
Josephine Debevec (50) Cleveland, OH	10.00	
Memory of Mary Zust (50) from daughter Josephine Smith, Cleveland, OH	10.00	
Angela Trobenter (10) Cleveland, OH	4.00	
Antonia Prelesnik (30) Grand Haven, MI	1.20	125.20

### Pennsylvania-New York-Washington, D.C.

Mary Mejac (103) Washington, DC	\$20.00	
Memory Anna Sterle (71) from daughter Hedy Sterle, Strabane, PA	10.00	
Anton Malensek, Orange, CT	5.15	
Jane Hudak (74) Baden, PA	1.70	36.85

### Wisconsin

Memory of LaVerne Korpnick (12) from daughter Mary Korpnick and granddaughter Mary Bastle, Milwaukee, WI	\$20.00	
Gisela Lah (30) Madison, WI	1.20	
Lillian Oman (30) Milwaukee, WI	1.20	22.40

Total for three months	\$ 271.85	
Previous Total	5,229.50	

**Total to date (53 months) \$5,501.35**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS GRATITUDE.....

Thank you for your fine magazine. Enjoy it – have sent for some tapes and they are excellent, too. Enclosed is my dues and extra for stamps. There is a Slovenian station on our satellite station T-3-22 which reports news in Slovenian. It comes on for a half hour every evening from Michigan. We have a "dish" in our back yard and it is picking it up well. They give this address for anyone to write to them: SCOLA, P.O. Box 619, McClelland, IOWA 51548-0619.

*Antonia Prelesnik*

Even though Rose Carricato doesn't remember anything or anyone, she still relates to the ZARJA – The Dawn magazine. She is a member of Br. 92. Thank you.

*Sherry Carricato  
Platteville, CO*

We enjoy the ZARJA very much. My husband and I especially liked the immigrant stories – "Pots and Pans" are a favorite – me for making – he for eating, and all the activities of the various branches, make for interesting reading. My mother has made a new friend in Minnesota from an inquiry published in the ZARJA a few years ago. Keep up the good work. Enclosed find check for \$5.00 to your fund.

We are members of Branch 10 in Cleveland, Ohio. Thanking you, I remain,

*Mary L. Doles,  
Cleveland, OH*

Kathy and Tim Monahan of Oak Park celebrated their 25th anniversary. Several family members, friends and neighbors attended the party. Two of Marge Prebil's nephews and their wives came in for the enjoyment – one from San Francisco and the other from Peoria who came with her sister from Peoria.

Our meeting was on April 8th with lunch. Then we were to make plans for

our convention trip to San Francisco. Tickets for the Mother of the Year party are available. We are honoring Mary Therese Ehnat. Call Gladys 221-0475 or Edna 221-5708 for tickets.

Vida Kumse, our delegate to the Convention, asks that those going on the trip definitely attend the May 13th Mother's Day Party so that last minute preparations can be finalized.

E.W.

## NO. 20, JOLIET, IL

Hi everyone. Time is sure flying. This article will cover 2 months of news (May and June).

At our last meeting we were honored with a visit by three of our out-of-town National Officers. They were National President, Victoria Bobence from Ely, Minnesota; National Vice President,

Beverly Jackson from San Francisco, California and National Auditor Cirila Kermavner from Cleveland, Ohio. Thank you, ladies, for coming to our meeting. By the way Victoria won the 50/50 prize!

Also honored at this meeting were all who's name is derived from Joseph. This was in honor of St. Joseph's Day, March 19th. The ladies who received a carnation were Jo Lustik, Joann Legerski, Jo Rozich, Jo Goron and Jonita Ruth.

An anniversary toast to Bob and Marcia Judnick on celebrating 30 years of marriage on May 8th! Bob and Marcia have three children. Congratulations and many more years of happiness.

**New Moms, Grandmas and Great Grandmas:** Raymond and Annette Koncar are the proud parents of a new little girl, Amy Marie. Grandma is Dorothy Koncar and great-grandma is Mayme Fedo. Four generations of S.W.U. members!

Rich and Mary Kay Demick are also new grandparents. They have a little granddaughter, Gabrielle Margaret. Best wishes to you all on your new families.

We wish bundles of get well wishes for Mary Tomasic, Joann Legerski and Marie Scheidt. Hurry and get well; we miss you.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Beatrice Fothergill on the loss of her brother, Artie Likar.

Bill Koncar and sons from Minnesota played at the American Slovenian Home in March. Joining them on button boxes were the Wolf brothers and Ray Koncar and Dick Tezak, Jr. and Rob Kovacic on guitars and George Borice on the Banjo.

Rosanne Ruth, member of Br. 20 is the daughter of Jonita and Fred Ruth and is an employee of the Empress River Casino. She was recently promoted to Director of Internal Audit. When Rosanne took the job at the casino she felt it would be a great career opportunity and exciting as well to join Empress. Congratulations, Rosanne, and lots of luck in your promotion!

On Sept. 3rd, SWU along with Fr. David Stalzer is planning a trip to Waukegan for Baraga Days. A bus will leave Joliet around 12:00 noon bound for North Chicago for the 3:00 p.m. Mass at Queen of Peace Church. This

Mass will be said by Cardinal Bernardin. After that we will go to the Holiday Inn for the Baraga Association banquet at 6:00, then return to Joliet. The cost for the day is \$45.00 per person. Call the home office at 727-1926 or Fr. David at 726-4031 to reserve your seat.

St. Joseph's Altar and Rosary is planning a Bingo & Card party at St. Joe's Park on Sunday May 28th at 1:30 p.m. Admission is \$1.50. Refreshments are free. Everyone is welcome. Come and enjoy a fun filled afternoon.

The Women of the Year and Scholarship awards dinner will be held on Tuesday, May 9th. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Dinner tickets are \$5.00 for members and guests. For reservations contact Jonita at Home Office 727-1926 or Agnes Dobczyk at 727-2580.

Keep Sunday, June 4th open. Branch 20 will celebrate it's 67th Anniversary with an 8:30 a.m. Mass. All members are urged to come to this Mass. Let's see if we can fill the church!

Till then, take care and may God bless you all.

JOYCE VICICH

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## NO. 22, BRADLEY, IL

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It was a chilly, windy first day of Spring and the first meeting of the year. Hostess Ann Richards brought out from storage all the rabbits, chicks and eggs she could find to put us in the Easter mood. Mission accomplished, and together with Marge Planton, they gave the ladies of Br. 22 a grand opening to the year's events. To both, our heartfelt thanks for a job well done. (Another piece of apple strudel with ice cream, please!).

At this meeting the members agreed to the proposal that a Mass would be requested for a deceased member only, rather than also for an immediate family member. Must go easy on the treasury, to enable the Branch to meet its obligations and contribute to Zveza funds, such as Scholarship, to which the Branch gave in '94.

Few institutions in the area have the good fortune of being the beneficiary of nearly a million-dollar trust fund. St. Joseph Parish will receive the interest of around \$65,000 annually through the thoughtfulness of parishioner, Luella Ader, who died in 1993 at the age of 92; the gift is a memorial to her daughter, Phyllis. The

sum will be a big help in maintaining the parish school. Every parish should be so lucky!

Speaking of big bucks, there's Barbara Clutter in the banking business. She is the daughter of our member Ann Richards. Now as supervisor in the Commercial Loans Department, Barbara travels to bank branches throughout the State. A nice promotion, Barbara! Congratulations.

Congratulations, too, to a new great-grandmother among us! Marge Planton is anxiously waiting to see baby Rachel Cardosi of Omaha, NE, who will be coming this way to be baptized. Mama is the former Lynn Lamie of Bourbonnais.

We were privileged to assist at the first Mass of Fr. Steven Rielly, former parishioner ordained as a Legionary of Christ, the American province in Cheshire, CT. His brother, Scott will be ordained next year. Two priests in one family! What a blessing!

The two Joes, Lustig and Znidarsich, are recovering slowly from their unfortunate mishaps, one from a stroke, the other from a work-related accident. Please keep up those prayers, for the road ahead is long and rough. Our condolences to cousin Josephine upon the death of her husband George Shalek. May his soul rest in peace. In recent weeks, our brother Joe, cousin Ed Lustik, and George were all at Riverside Rehab at the same time. Ed is now residing with daughter Monica in Minnesota.

April showers bring forth those golden dandelions, beautiful to look at and deliciously potent as wine. When young and tender, dandelions make a "dandy" salad. As kids, we always looked forward to at least three meals of such greens.

A safe and happy summer. It seems like the shortest season of the year. Doesn't it to you?

EMMA LUSTIG

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## NO. 23, ELY, MN

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The officers for Branch 23, Ely, Minnesota for 1995, are Jane Yadlosky, President; Jean Polyner, Vice-president; Rosemarie Buchner, Treasurer; Faye Smuk, Secretary. Jane presided at our meeting in March. Various fund-raisers were discussed.

Ann Saari was selected as our

Woman of the Year. She has always been a dedicated worker for the Slovenian Women's Union. Coffee an' followed the meeting. The evening ended with socializing and Bingo.

MARCELLA ZUPEC,  
Reporter

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## NO. 24, LASALLE, IL

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I was unable to be present at the March meeting but Vice President Minnie Carter did a fine job of presiding at the meeting from all reports. The twelve members present elected two of our faithful, hard-working members to serve as delegate and alternate to the National SWU Convention in San Francisco in May. Jo Grabowski and Mary Ann Brunner will represent our branch very well. We had given up any hope of getting someone to go when Jo and Mary Ann decided they would go if it wasn't too late to make the necessary arrangements. Jo got busy and made the reservations, etc. and we are all very happy that Branch 24 will be a part of our National Convention.

Our member and good friend, Stephanie Kobilsek, passed away on March 21. She was an active member until she became ill and was a resident of Heritage Manor Nursing Home in Mendota. Fannie had been our member for 60 years and will be fondly remembered for the many beautiful afghans she crocheted and donated for our projects and also for the delicious bakery items she contributed to our bake sales. A large group of our members were present at the Shimkus-Helmer funeral home to recite the SWU Funeral Ritual and then attend Burial Mass at Resurrection Church. Her nephew, Rev. Michael Pakula, celebrated the Mass. Our sympathy is extended to her family, daughter, Frances Larson, son, Daniel, nine grandchildren and four great grandchildren as well as her sisters, Mary Spelich and Pauline Pakula. We pray that God will grant Fannie eternal rest with Him in Heaven.

My daughter and member, Marianne Schweickert of Aurora had surgery at Edward Hospital in Naperville on March 14. She is recuperating at home and we are praying for her complete recovery. she wishes to thank all the members who signed the "get well" card at the March meeting and others

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## FROM OUR MAILBOX

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Hello! I am proud to be a member and so was momma, Mary H. Zito of Branch 42. Please accept this memorial donation in her name. She joined the Other Angels on February 9, 1995. Hvala lepa.

Terry Anzo  
Bedford, OH

In need of help:

In reading Jan./Feb. ZARJA, the name of Phyliss Kukar appeared in the article SZZ 39 Biwabik, MN.

Can you please forward this letter for Phyliss Kukar via Jean Korsman who wrote the article.

This is the 3rd Kukar family I have encountered in 40 years, this will be appreciated very much.

Thank you very much, Hvala Lepa.

John P. Kukar  
1420 Cleveland Dr.  
Great Falls, MT 59404

*Your publication is the finest of all the Lodges in the United States. Work is superb.*

who sent cards and remembered her in their prayers. Anne Serri, our treasurer, has been ill and is still confined to her home. We are hoping that you will be with us at our May dinner, Anne. This has been an especially trying time for Anne so we'll continue to remember her in our prayers.

Congratulations to Wanita and George Helmer who have a new addition to their family -- a grandson who was born in Springfield, IL on March 27 to daughter, Kristin and Lee Allen.

Our May birthday celebrants are: Auditor Jo Foley, Rita Mae Pyszka, Sherrie Plowman and Elizabeth Ritz. Our June birthday celebrants will be Paula Illman, Financial Secretary Betty Stack, Rose Mary McLaughlin and Junior member Abby Schweickert. We wish all of you a Happy Birthday and hope you have many more happy years of celebration.

We will honor all members at our

Dear Mrs. Ancel,

Enclosed is my application for your Union, also for my daughter.

I talked with Ms. Cop in Kansas City. It saddens me that there is no active involvement of this KC group. Even the SNPJ lodge no longer meets. My in-laws do not speak Slovene as their heritage was never passed to them. Once grandparents came to the USA, it was "You are American now." I feel my children are missing so much. So, in these little ways, such as joining Zveza, we are trying to enlighten our children.

Thank you and I really enjoyed the copy of ZARJA you sent.

Most sincerely,

Stephanie Spacek

Dear Madam:

I want to inform you that I have received the cookbook as of this date and in good condition.

It sure brings back memories about my mother-in-law, Mary Plecnik who died Nov. 1977 at the age of 97. She belonged to the Lorain, OH group.

The book is very well written. In fact it is one of the best that I have seen in a long time.

Thank you very much. Dober Dan! I am not Slovenian but Hungarian.

Ellie Udovich  
Elyria, OH

May Dinner on Thursday, May 18 at noon at the Paramount Club. Reservations must be made with one of the co-chairmen, Betty Stack (phone 224-1949) or Doris Hallett (phone 667-4266) by Tuesday, May 16. The dinner will take the place of our regular May meeting. Our next regular meeting will be on Thursday, June 15 in the La Salle Catholic School Library at 7:00 p.m.

We congratulate the elected Mothers of the Year and wish them a Happy Mother's Day. We wish all of our mothers good health and much happiness. We remember those who are no longer with us in our prayers.

ANNE M. WANGLER, Reporter

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## NO. 25, CLEVELAND, OH

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Spring was really keeping an early date with us this year. It burst all over with patches of spring bouquets. We, and nature, were happy to prepare for May and the new season of spring!

A little late but may all your wishes come true and may the year ahead be filled with the best life has to offer. Happy birthday to Mimi Yavornik, Rose Cimperman, Fran Godec, Tončka Seleznik and many more... Congratulations to Vickie Peterline on receiving her master's degree in American Indian and Japanese history.

Cheery thoughts and many, many get well wishes to our convalescing members, Millie Chesnik, Ann Skully, Vickie Kmet, Jo Mohorcic, Jennie Strumbel, Rose Poprik, Mary Knaus. That is enough! Please hurry and get well!

Our deepest sympathy to the families of Christine Verbic and Antonija Lozar. May the Lord above give you strength to carry on and may Christine and Antonija rest in peace.

Congratulations to our new president, Fran Gazvoda. Hip, hip, hooray!

We finally started our monthly meetings regularly. We have them on Sundays. Let me tell you, Br. 25 is on a revival!!

Our Mother-Woman of the Year is Frances Barman. Her day will be May 6th at 1:30 p.m. at Sterle's Country House. She is our 97 year old "youngster"! May Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth bless Mrs. Barman and all our Mothers! We wish you a Mother's Day that is filled with springtime joy and happiness with your families to fill your hearts long after this day is gone!

CIRILA KERMAVNER

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### NO. 30, HOME OFFICE

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The azaleas and dogwoods are blooming, and the daffodils have burst forth from their winter slumber all over Atlanta. The birds have come home to



**Mary Urbancic of Dallas, TX at the NARFE presentation where she exhibited her Slovenian dolls and artifacts. Mary (right) is a member of Br. 30 and with her is friend, Feene Bistany.**

my garden, waking me up every morning with their sweet songs. I do love the springtime!

I'm happy to report that Lisa Marie Godina, who was featured in our March report, received a reply to her request for information on her family. Emily C. Unik of Cleveland wrote to the ZARJA office, "I am delighted over reading about the Lisa Marie. My cousins are certainly relatives of hers and they would be delighted to correspond with and/or meet her." She went on to give some family history and added, "If there is a red head in Lisa's family, it's a cousin!"

Anna Cadez of Arcadia, CA is a Tour Director who brings people over from Slovenia and conducts tours in her area. I just learned that Anna is from Rakek, Slovenia. Elaine Murphy, one of our newest members, has been researching her family's genealogy and wrote me that she is very interested in learning about Rakek.

That's part of the fun of being your reporter - putting members in touch with each other.

Mary Urbancic of Dallas, TX is one of our busiest members. Mary joined Branch 5 back in 1927. She retired from Small Business Administration in 1945 after 45 years, but she hasn't slowed down a bit! She has traveled to Canada, Mexico, and Israel, plus six trips to Europe. She is active in a senior citizen's group as well as playing bridge and bingo, and loves working in her yard. One of Mary's hobbies is making costumes for Slovenian dolls. She is a member of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees, and at one meeting she made a presentation based on Slovenia with a display of dolls, pictures and various items made in

Slovenia. She even sent a doll for last year's Christmas raffle of Branch 5.

Mary wrote that one of her most impressive memories was in the '30s and 40s when, after attending midnight mass, relatives would gather at her home for ham, potica, flancati, krofe, etc. which her mother prepared. The affair usually broke up at 4 a.m., and there was always home made wine and lots of singing.

Happy birthday wishes go out to Beth Pavlic of Duluth, GA on May 21 and Josephine S. Lozar of Wickiffe, OH on June 23. Happy Anniversary on to June 22 to Frances and Lewis Pajak of Phoenix, AZ.

Our family is off to California and Maui for two and a half weeks in May and June. I'll tell you the lovely details next time.

Nasvidenje!

MARY PAVLIC

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### NO. 32, EUCLID, OH

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At our March 15 meeting we welcomed our president Ann Cooke back home after 3 months in Florida. No Mother of the Year Dinner this year. We will go to a restaurant and honor all Mothers of Branch 32 on May 3 at 6:00 p.m. The regular monthly meeting will still be on Wed. May 17.

For our April 19th meeting, Dorothy Lamm suggested we have a Parade of Hats. Dorothy Lamm's husband had back surgery last year and now had to have hip surgery. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Stephanie Ann Kneisley (granddaughter of Dorothy and Bob Lamm) made cheerleader for her Springfield School (junior cheerleader) Nicole Smith (granddaughter of Helen and Frank Kovacevic) planned to visit her grandparents for a week before Easter. She is from Laudenburg, Pa.

Ladies going to the Convention in San Francisco are Dorothy Lamm, Josephine Gornik, Ann Rossman Mary Ann Foster and our delegate, Charlotte Perdan.

March birthdays - belated wishes to Thelma Lisching, Dorothy Lamm, Hermine Strainer, Ann Urban, Rose Brancely, Anna Pozar, Josephine Koss and Johanna Gustincic. We will send birthday cards to our members who are 75 years old.

ROSE HAHN, Reporter

# Pots and Pans



Barbara J. Chiodo, chairman of our 22nd National Convention to be held in San Francisco, along with her outstanding preparations for the event has thoughtfully submitted two recipes: BAGDAD BY THE BAY CHICKEN and a recipe that was her mother, Frances Chiodo's favorite, and very San Franciscan - FRAN'S CIOPPINO, SAN FRANCISCO STYLE. And of course it was always served with San Francisco Sourdough French Bread.



*Fisherman's wharf*

A delightful Mother's Day special dessert is BOCCONE DOLCE (Sweet Mouthful) which is an all-time favorite of one of our newspaper food editors in Madison.

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Editor, Corinne Leskovar thoughtfully sent me a list of the comments sent by members who remarked with their Note-card contributions that the recipes in *Pots & Pans* are enjoyed in ZARJA! Thank you, ladies, for your kind interest and for taking the time to tell us!

Happy Mother's Day!

Affectionately,

*Hermine*

## BAGDAD BY THE BAY CHICKEN

- |       |  |   |                               |
|-------|--|---|-------------------------------|
| 1     | cup of uncooked, regular rice                | 1 | medium onion, chopped         |
| 1/3   | cup raisins                                  | 1 | cup water                     |
| 2     | tablespoons butter or margarine              | 1 | can (8 ounces) tomato sauce   |
| 2     | teaspoons curry powder                       | 2 | teaspoons salt                |
| 2 1/2 | to 3 pounds chicken, cut into serving pieces | 1 | teaspoon Worcestershire sauce |
|       |  |   | Chopped peanuts (optional)    |
|       |  |   | Chopped parsley (optional)    |

Heat oven to 350°. Combine rice and raisins in shallow, ungreased 2-quart baking dish. Melt butter or margarine in large skillet. Stir in curry powder. Add chicken and brown well on all sides. Arrange on rice mixture. Add onion to drippings in skillet and cook until tender. Stir in water, tomato sauce, salt and Worcestershire sauce. Bring to boil. Pour over chicken. Cover and bake in 350° oven for 40 to 45 minutes or until chicken is tender and rice mixture desired consistency. Garnish with chopped peanuts and parsley, if desired. 4 servings.

## FRAN'S CIOPPINO, SAN FRANCISCO STYLE

- |     |                                       |     |                                    |
|-----|---------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| 2   | large onions                          | 1   | cup sauterne or any dry white wine |
| 2   | cloves garlic                         | 1   | teaspoon salt                      |
| 2   | tablespoons olive oil                 | 1/4 | teaspoon pepper                    |
| 1/4 | cube butter                           | 2   | large raw crabs                    |
| 7   | celery stalks                         | 2   | pounds prawns                      |
| 1   | bunch parsley                         | 2   | pounds clams                       |
| 3   | cans (28 ounces each) stewed tomatoes | 1   | pound scallops                     |
| 3   | cans (8 ounces each) tomato sauce     |     |                                    |

Grind onions and crush cloves of garlic. Saute in olive oil and butter for 10 minutes. Grind celery stalks and parsley. Add to onions and cook 10 minutes. Add stewed tomatoes which have been put in osterizer or food processor, plus tomato sauce. Add sauterne or white wine, salt, and pepper. Bring to hard simmer, cover and simmer low for 1 hour. Add the crabs (pulled apart), prawns, clams and scallops and simmer 1 hour more. 6 to 8 servings.

## BOCCONE DOLCE (Sweet Mouthful)

- |       |                                    |       |                                  |
|-------|------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| 9     | large egg whites, room temperature | 4     | tablespoons water                |
| 2     | cups sugar                         | 1 1/2 | pints whipping water             |
| 1     | teaspoon cream of tartar           | 1     | tablespoon confectioners' sugar  |
| 1 1/2 | teaspoons vanilla                  | 1     | quart fresh strawberries, sliced |
| 9     | ounces chocolate chips             |       | Toasted almonds slices, optional |

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Beat egg whites until stiff. Gradually add sugar cream of tartar and vanilla. Butter a 9-by-13-inch pan. Pour in egg white mixture. Bake 2 minutes, then turn off oven and keep it closed until oven is cool. This can be baked at night and left in the oven until morning.

Melt chocolate chips in water in double boiler. When cool, spread on top of baked egg white mixture. Whip cream; add 1 tablespoon confectioners' sugar. Spread half of this on top of the chocolate. Top with strawberries, reserving a few for garnish, then rest of whipped cream. Decorate with remaining strawberries and toasted almond slices. Refrigerate until ready to serve. Serves 16 to 20.

NOTE: Amount of toasted almond slices can vary; however 1/4 to 1/2 cup works well. This is an optional ingredient and complements the dessert nicely.

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### NO. 33, DULUTH, MN

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May will be a busy month. May 3, we will honor Madelyn Abbott as our Mother of the Year. Members to attend Zveza Convention also in May.

Greetings on Mother's Day to all members in nursing homes or away from the area and unable to attend meetings. We miss you all.

Congratulations to new member James Foldesi, mother, Cheryl Foldesi, and grandmother, Althea Tverberg.

Also best wishes on the wedding of Ann (Joe) Mrak's grandson.

Prayers of sympathy to Mary Misiewicz on the death of her brother.

LOIS PELANDER, Reporter

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### NO. 34, SOUDAN, MN

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Branch 34 held a short business meeting on March 15. Our delegate to the National Convention, Adrienne Micklich, gave a brief report and she seems to have everything taken care of to date. We were told that Nat'l Pres. Tory Bobence would be at the national board meeting on March 20, 21, and 22. We will be waiting to hear her report when she gets back.

We discussed further money-making projects to send our delegate to San Francisco and the ladies decided to have a bake sale April 1st and 2nd, after our Masses on those days. A guest at our meeting, Vida Popesh of Soudan, offered to furnish a potica for us to raffle at our Parish Roast Beef Dinner on April 23rd. We thank Vida for being so generous -- she is thinking about joining our group and offered this to us so freely.

We held a games party with prizes brought by each of us; the ladies never cease to come up with some unique prizes. We also had a white elephant table and that was fun, too. These, plus the bake sale and potica raffle proceeds, will all go to Adrienne for her trip. I thank the ladies for donating to these projects, taking part in the games party, the white elephant sale, baking, buying chances, etc.

Hostesses for March were Mary Gornick and Helen Adkisson, who served delicious lemon pie with our coffee. The door prize, brought by Emma Be-tourne and won by Lorraine Berg was a fancy bottle of wine -- which Lorraine

promised to share with all of us!

Our April 19 meeting hostesses were Angela Tekautz and Sophie Spollar, the door prize brought by Tory Bobence.

Plans for our Mother of the Year celebration on May 3rd were made. After our dinner on the 3rd, we will recess for the summer months, resuming our meetings in September.

ADELINE MUSTONEN,  
Reporter

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### NO. 35, AURORA, MN

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Spring is officially here and it is so good to hear the birds singing again. Our snow was all gone, but old man Winter isn't letting go yet; we had snow again this past weekend (Mar. 25th)! At least we know it won't last!

No meeting this month, but we want to send congratulations to the following young people.

Allison Ferris and all her Mesabi East High School Basketball teammates for a job well done!! Their season ended with 25 wins and 2 losses! And to their coach, Carl Glavan, who received the Coach of the Year Award!

Julie Smith who is active in the Cultural Society of South Slavs of Minneapolis. She is the editor of their newsletter, ADRIA.

Mark Williams who became General Manager of the International Casting Corporation in New Baltimore, MI. He also is the Plant Metallurgical Engineer.

James Wheeler's Confirmation class and their parents who take turns to prepare and serve dinner at a Homeless Shelter in Minneapolis once a week during the winter months to 60 people. They also make, bake and sell 400 cookies at 25 cents each every Sunday at their church and donate the proceeds to the Food Shelf.

Beautiful crafts have been donated by our members for this year's Scholarship Craft table at the Nat'l SWU Con-

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### WISHING GOOD LUCK!

Hi! Here is a check of \$5 for the Convention Drawing. Wish you all the success at the convention. I would like to be there but can't leave my husband who had a stroke 10 years ago. But, I wish you the best and warm greetings.

Ivanka Matic  
Br. 50, Cleveland, OH

vention. Special thanks to Mary (Rudy) Smolich for several decorative wildlife pillows and to Anna Rose Smolich who tatted and decorated several packets of note paper and envelopes. I understand more crafts will be donated by the departure date in May.

Prayers and get well wishes to all our members who are ill and especially for our 1994 Mother of the Year, Ann Royer.

Happy Mother's Day to all our Mothers!

ANNE M. ORAZEM



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### 39, BIWABIK, MN

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The March 5th meeting had a sizable group (17) present so we were able to set some "dates and places" for our Sept. Convention, our primary concern for this year. Arrangements have been made to use the Park Pavillion for our meeting, and the Church hall for our dinner. A caterer has been hired and we have three ladies sharing the co-chair duties. Thanks to Vice President Kathy Siskar, our Gilbert transfer Eleanor Indihar, and new member Denise Erchul for taking on this tremendous responsibility, we know these three will handle this undertaking well! They will be meeting soon to assign committees and write letters to all members enlisting their support in any capacity possible.

The members were instructed to buy the cards sent from the home office (monies to be used for the publication of our dear "ZARJA"). We hope all will make use of the cards (or sell them) and donate the \$10 asked. They are beautiful cards, and we all have an obligation to help out with this worthwhile project.

Jr. member Jaime Siskar gave us a great report on her trip to Washington D.C. We are happy to have been of support by our donation, as it was apparent she had a great learning experience and a fun trip!

The "Woman of the Year" dinner will be held on May 7 at the Holiday Inn, in Eveleth, MN. We hope we will have a large group for this fun event.

Hostesses for the month were Margaret Setnikar and Molly Zamlen, who served sandwiches and a great lemon dessert, with super St. Patrick's day decorations.

JEAN KORSMAN, President



## 40, LORAIN, OH

Our March meeting was cancelled, due to the bad weather. There's not much news except a few reminders.

Your dues should have been paid up for the year 1995 no later than Feb. 1995. The National Convention will be held in San Francisco on May 19, 20, 21, 1995.

Our delegate is Angie Voytko and alternate is Rose Jancar. If you wish to make a donation to the Heritage Museum or scholarship, etc. give it to Angie who said she would take it.

Don't forget to sent your \$10 for the beautiful cards you received recently from ZARJA. Try to come to our future meetings so we can plan our May dinner honoring all our mothers.

We have some very dedicated ladies in our lodge who are members of St. Cyril & Methodius Church. They baked over 200 apple and cheese strudels to raise money for their Guild and church.

We wish a speedy recovery to all our sick members and especially to our Angie Kozjar and Angie Zgonc.

For the second year in a row Ken Pogachar was picked coach of the year. He has been coaching for 27 years, eight of them as coach of Lorain Catholic girls basketball. Although they lost to Mogadore in the district semi-finals, the group finished with the finest record in school history and in Lorain County 21-2 and Ken was Division IV Coach of the Year. A fine husband and father of 3 children Ken is a psychiatrist, doctor and social worker. His proud parents are our Sophie and Andrew Pogacher.

My grandson, Anthony Mercurio will be graduating from Mount Union college in Alliance with degrees in Business and Economics on May 7, 1995 and my grandson, Michael Mercurio, who is in the Air Force, received his first stripe and is hoping to take a test for officers training in June. My granddaughter, Sherri Ann who is teaching in Longfellow school will be attending summer school towards her Master's in speech therapy. Best wishes to all.

Stay well and I hope you all enjoy your summer. See you at our May 10th meeting at 1 p.m. Come and enjoy a delicious dessert and some good company. Love,

MARY MATOS

## A Crafty Idea

I did work at trying to start the knitted tablecloth, but found that my fingers were not agile enough to cope with the first 32 rounds that requires working with FIVE double pointed needles. If you would like to try your hand at this project, let me know; the pattern is available.

In the meantime, I do have directions for a 55-inch pineapple tablecloth that is crocheted. This one I have made (in red) and it is very pretty. Lots and lots of pineapples.

For your copy of the patterns, please specify (knitted, \$1.00) or (crocheted, \$2.00). Make checks payable to ZARJA, include a self-addressed stamped envelope and send to:

Evelyn A. Majercik  
31 Eldred Avenue  
Bedford, Ohio 44146



## MAPLE HEIGHTS, OH

Hello ladies! We missed a birthday in April and wish to extend best wishes to Helen Grocky, a member who transferred from Br. 15. In May, many happy returns go to Mitzi Champa, our VP, Clara Hrovat, Dorothy Mehosky, our ZARJA reporter, Dorothy Ponikvar, Melinda Prhne, Vida Shega, Samantha and Shawn Thompson, Donna Wilk and Angie Zupanc.

If this article reaches you in time, be sure to attend our Mothers' Mass at St. Wenceslas, on May 2nd, meet at 6:45 p.m. in the vestibule of the church.

Our meetings are held every other month now and request that you attend the meeting in June on the second Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. at the SNH. This concludes our first half of the year, and plans need to be made for the balance of 1995. It is recognized that everyone is busy; but make an effort to support your SWU and attend the meetings. Pitch in a little! Mark your calendars.

Also keep in mind your dues were payable at the beginning of the year. If not paid, this is your reminder.

June birthday celebrants are: Mary Ann Filips, Katy Gruden, Jennie Intihar, Betty Ann Kastelic, Bob Kas-

SWU Crest indicates the 65th Anniversary of this branch in 1995.

Congratulations!



telic, Dolores Lipnos, Sally Prhne and Ann Trattar. To all a Happy Birthday!

May is special. It's Mary's month, Mother's day, and the recognition of all Slovenian Women's Union members. With sincere intentions, let's pray to "Our Lady," and FOR 'our ladies', to grant them health, happiness and love.

MARGE



## 43, MILWAUKEE, WI

Our March meeting was well attended, and was opened with a prayer by our President, Josephine Janezic. Roll call was followed by minutes and the financial report. All was approved by the members attending the meeting.

We welcomed two guests, Joan Yaklich, Acting State President and Mary Kiel of Br. 12, who presented us with gifts which will be used as prizes at our convention. We appreciate your kindness and wish to thank you very, very much.

We were served a delicious luncheon by our birthday Girls, Elsie Gallun and Mary Zortz. We wish both of you many, many more happy and healthy birthdays. We also wish happy birthday to all of our March birthday members.

May 21st will be a very special day for Jackie Nimmer. She is our Slovenian "Ambassador" and will be given an Award of Merit by The Slovenian Arts Council at U.W.M. Congratula-

tions, Jackie! After the award we will be entertained by the P.M.S. Concert. The leader of this group is Pat, Mitzie Bregant's daughter. We will have a bus for your transportation to this occasion. The bus will leave St. John Evangelist Church parking lot at 1:00 p.m. The price is \$2.00 and reservations must be made. Call either Josephine Janezic at 545-0691 or you may call me at 871-8295.

May 24th will also be a special day. We will have a luncheon at Klemmer's 10401 W. Oklahoma Ave. at 1:00 p.m. Because our members have striven to make our branch 43 a very thriving and enjoyable organization, we decided that this year we will honor all of our members at this luncheon. The luncheon is \$12.00 and reservations must be made. Again you can call either Josephine or me.

Don't forget about our convention on September 17th. We have plenty of space still available in our booklet for patrons at \$2.00 per person and advertising space, \$12.50 for a quarter page, \$25.00 for the half page, and \$50.00 for the entire page. Further details on our convention will be published in a future edition of ZARJA.

Please keep our sick and deceased members in your prayers.

ANNE E. KONCZAL,  
Reporter

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## NO. 50, EUCLID, OH

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Before the opening of our scheduled March meeting, the Deputy Director, John Weedon, of the Euclid Public Library, where we hold our meetings, reviewed the library levy and bond reasons for being on the ballot at the May 2nd Primary Election. He stated that the Operating Levy is a replacement of the former levy, and it is based on the evaluation of the library. The 20 year bond is for much needed expansion. Euclid has had a 75% increase in circulation, therefore, space is needed due to the overcrowded conditions. These issues are on "Euclid only" ballots. We hope these matters will be accomplished because the library is a primary asset for the City of Euclid and a delightful place in which to be.

No meeting to be held in May. Any important announcements will be made by our President, Ann Tercek, during

## My Thanks to members of Branch 43!

I want to take this opportunity to thank the membership of Branch 43 for their support. I especially extend thanks to the newly elected officers for their cooperation and assistance in completely modernizing and reorganizing all of our records.

On May 24th, we are celebrating, with a luncheon, our Members of the Year. I hope to see every member join us on this occasion.

This is a very special year for all of us as we remember Mrs. Gertrude Delopst, who started our Branch sixty-five years ago. Not only are we celebrating our anniversary, but we are also celebrating the State Convention in Milwaukee on September 17th. We sincerely hope that many of you will join us at this time.

More information regarding both celebrations will be sent to ZARJA by Branch 43 newly-elected reporter, Anne Konzal.

God grant blessings and Happy Mother's Day to all!

Josephine Janezic  
President

the "Mother of the Year Luncheon" at Sterle's Slovenian Country House for Evelyn Pipoly at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday the 11th of May. See you there. (Last chance dues are due.) We decided to have our 1995 picnic one week after the September meeting which will be 9-27-95. And our 1995 Christmas Party will be at Sterle's (\$15 - family style). More on this later of course.

We thank all our members and their families for recently making it possible to raise a \$101.00 donation to the Scholarship Fund. It was the 2nd largest donation made to the Fund in March.

Those privileged to go to the National Convention will have Josephine Mistic joining them as a guest. Being a very understanding member, she donated a check for \$50.00 to further defray any expenses that may occur for the group.

We were honored at our March meeting by our long-time member, Frances Jerse who resides in North Canton, Ohio. She delighted us with a romantic "This is Your Life" rendition. It should be put down in writing as a magazine article or even "a book" for publication. We thank you, Frances, for having such an interesting life, and we hope you will honor us with more visits to share more of your life as it progresses.

Our sick list keeps growing. It consists of Maria Kelhar, Millie Pike, Ann Cetina, Stella Baum, Anna Petkovsek, and Stella Rupe. Get off that list as soon as possible. That is a command!

Jay Luschin's husband, Joseph passed away on the 10th of March. Jay is now living with her son, Richard and her daughter in law, Tila in Newbury, Ohio while Jay is recovering from a serious illness. Our sincere sympathy is extended to them.

Vi Zak is now residing at the Slovenian Home for the Aged. Visitors are always welcome.

Ann Tercek's grand daughter, Sharon Mramor was married April 22nd to Gary Gillen. We all wish them a beautiful life together.

We are happy to introduce you to our newest member, Helen Mismas, a very proficient hairdresser who owns and operates her shop on East 200th Street in Euclid. Last count, 21 of our ladies have been introduced to her talent. Welcome, Helen, to Branch 50! Make us better looking than we are.

Vera Sebenik, my mentor, and her husband, Frank were surprised by a 4 day visit from their son and daughter in law, Roger and Betty, in March. The young couple resides in Boulder, Colorado, a delightful, medium-sized city on the eastern edge of the Rocky Mt. Range. The visit was a much needed shot in the arm and everywhere else for Vera and Frank.

During the month of May, besides May Day, there are a couple other important days to remember, Mother's Day and Memorial Day. We should remember our Mothers on their day, and honor our fathers, sons, daughters, brothers and sisters, who made the ultimate sacrifice, on Memorial Day. Pray for love and permanent peace for the whole world.

Nasvidenje!

VI MORAVCHEK

Happy Mother's Day to all Zveza members and good health, happiness and God's blessings!

Our Mother-Daughter Luncheon is on Wednesday, May 17th at 1:00 p.m. at the Elks, Rt. 422. I will be calling you for reservations. All mothers will be honored. The Elks has a new chef and it should be a much better menu. Being a door prize and canned goods. Will have a surprise for members, too!

We are very sad to have our president, Jo Kassan, in the hospital. She had surgery on her foot and developed a problem suddenly and is now on bed-rest. Get well soon, Jo! Our branch needs you! Jo has such good children, they are so caring and loving and devoted to her. She is certainly blessed.

Our sweet 91 year young Mayme Sporich is at Hillside Rehab for several weeks. She had leg surgery and we hope that she'll soon be home and doing better.

Please try to attend our luncheon. You will enjoy the afternoon with your sister members.

Good luck and God's blessings to all the delegates for the Convention this month. We wish you success.

Since there would be no mothers without fathers and vice versa, and since we have no June ZARJA issue, let me wish all our fathers a very Happy Day! Especially to Dads of Br. 54!

JOANNE PONIJKVAR

## YANKOVIC LETTER CAMPAIGN

For his outstanding musical contributions to the American cultural scene, Frankie Yankovic is being presented as a fine candidate for the prestigious Medal of Freedom. Letters to the President, Bill Clinton, are being sent on Yankovic's behalf and you are asked to participate by sending your own letter supporting "America's Polka King" for this Award. Send it to President Clinton, the White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. 20500. Many of our members are supporting this campaign for letters.

## Marija Pomagaj z Brezjij prosi za nas! Our Lady of Brezje Pray for Us!



Slovenian Chapel of Our Lady of Brezje, Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.

## Mary, Help of Christians Her Feastday is May 23rd

### NO. 55, GIRARD, OH

Ladies, please mark May 10, 1995 on your calendars. That will be the day for our Mother-Daughter banquet. It will be held at the Olive Garden restaurant at 5:00 p.m. in Niles, Ohio. Please make a special effort to attend this year. We will be able to order off of the menu. We would love to see you!

My niece, Andrea and my nephew, Mark are both in Ursuline High school's spring play, "My Fair Lady." Andrea plays the role of Anna and Mark plays her son, Louis. Best of Luck to both of you! My niece, Monica did a

fantastic job in the "Alice in Wonderland" ballet.

Our May birthdays include: Virginia Rostan, Andrea Selak, Mary Macek, Anka Kregar, Frances Lukz and Dori Kregar.

The month of May is also the month of Mary. The following is the prayer to Our Lady of Brezje:

*"Mary, Help of Christians, you show us how to be Christian, how to 'hear the word of God and keep it.' (Lk. 11:28) Help us to respond to God as you did, that the Spirit forms Christ in us, and that His mind, His heart, His will, be ours. Amen."*

Until next time, nasvidenje,

DORI KREGAR

Members held the meeting on March 7th, 1995 at First Ave., Apr. at 7:30 p.m. Prayers were said and roll call held. Our Mother's Day Dinner was discussed. We will have it at the Open Pit Supper Club the same night as our regular meeting, May 2nd. Pep Erickson will report on this next meeting (April 4th).

Birthdays for March were recognized. Lunch committee for April: Ann Satovich, Anne Barkis and Fran Tobey. Jennie Obert won the jackpot. No further discussions so our meeting closed with prayer.

Edith Jones won at Bunko, Mary Micheletti at 500 and Dorothy Oberstar at Cannasta.

Sincerely submitted by,

EDITH JONES

## NO. 73, WARRENSVILLE, OH

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY - 1995. May you spend the day surrounded by the family that gave you your title. Enjoy every minute of it -- savor some of the memories to carry you until the next one.

It seems that of late Branch No. 73 always has a sad note to include in their report. We said our last goodbyes to our Social Member, Emily Heidtman, who died early February. She was a faithful member, attended meetings and gatherings until her kidney problems and dialysis treatments took control of her life. Her suffering surely earned her a place in heaven, and we pray for the repose of her soul.

Our travelers returned from their southern flight away from Ohio's cold weather. Good reports were received on the fun they had and the sunshine they enjoyed. Included in that group were Helen Dodyk, Kay Yuratovac and Louise Zabukovec. Louise visited her two daughters, while Kay and Helen were involved with another group. Yours truly also "ran away" for a few days, taking time to handle personal matters and attend a reunion in Tampa. The break was most welcome.

If you have already received the announcement of our Cardless Card Party, we hope you will participate in this one fund-raiser we sponsor. The time and effort involved in bake sales,

## LOVE IS ALWAYS APPROPRIATE!

The following is taken from a story in the **Cleveland Plain Dealer** dated on St. Valentine's Day, Feb. 14th, 1995. It seems Evelyn Majercik won 3rd place in a contest the newspaper sponsored.

It was submitted to ZARJA by Br. 73 secretary, Alouise Epley and members who are very proud of their president, Evelyn and thought our ZARJA readers would like to read about her too.

Many of us may find that Evelyn and Stephen represent many of our very same feelings that came to the fore on Sweethearts Day!

\* \* \*

Evelyn Majercik of Bedford loves to sing, even though some songs turn on her tears -- like "Bridge Over Troubled Water" and "The Rose."

"They're almost like prayers," she says.

But "Always" is the song that has been special to her and her husband, Stephen, 75, since they courted by mail for four years in World War II.

Two weeks after they met, he went into the Air Corps, and says Evelyn, 70, "I started writing.

"And in the attic I have every letter he wrote me."

They were married Aug. 31, 1946, after his discharge, and raised six children: Stephen, Michael, Gerald, Tom, Mark and Mary, who died two years ago. And they have nine grandchildren, 3 through 23.

Today Evelyn visits Stephen in a nursing home to feed him dinner and visit. "If the tables were turned, I know he'd be there for me," she says.

She will get candy and flowers. He will also get flowers.

Her contest entry:

### *Always means always*

*Back in the days of the Deanna Durbin movies, when I was dating (and in love) with an Air Corps sergeant, we took to the song "Always." As the years passed, the words took on even more meaning.*

*Now, after 48 years of marriage and every chance that a golden anniversary will be denied us, I think of those words over and over. In our letters during the war years and in our cards to each other after our marriage, the signatures were always preceded with "Always."*

*My husband is now in a nursing home and I see him struggling to cope with simple tasks, like drinking a glass of milk, but the words still ring true. "Days may not be fair, Always -- that's when I'll be there, Always. Not for just an hour, not for just a day, not for just a year, but Always."*

*Perhaps if more meaningful songs were played today, young people would find something to remind them of what marriage truly represents, and some of the world's problems could be solved.*

## Keep your members informed! We love to read news of your branch in ZARJA!

garage sales, luncheons, etc. does not fit into the portion of our membership that remains active. The Cardless Card Party involves everyone and gives us a little operating money for our treasury. Thank you for your participation, we know we can count on you.

The National Convention in San Francisco will be held the end of this month. Please keep the efforts of the Board of Directors and the Delegates

in your prayers. Spiritual help is needed and felt in more ways than you are aware of -- include in those prayers a safe journey for the twenty-four members who are traveling from the Cleveland area.

April 1st was the deadline for dues to be paid, did you meet it?

Again, HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY, enjoy!

EVELYN A. MAJERICIK

Business meeting was held on March 29th with Pres. Josie Kapla presiding. She and Louis recently returned from a month's stay in Hawaii.

A special prayer service was held for deceased member, Mary Zevnick, a life-long member. We assisted and provided food at the funeral dinner held at St. Mary's church. Her famous apple strudels and krofe will be missed by all.

Members selected Sunday May 7th as our Mother's Day breakfast date. We will attend 8:30 a.m. mass and later gather at Tiger Town Eatery.

An award was received from the Home Office according to our membership standing.

A member, Mary Brletich celebrated her March birthday at this meeting.

Our branch sincerely regrets not being able to send a representative to the National Convention.

After closing prayer, members adjourned for coffee and cookies. Next meeting after Mother's Day will be held in August.

TONI DIORO

NO. 89, OGLESBY, IL

Our March 13th meeting was held with a large attendance. With spring around the corner, it is a treat to get outdoors in the fresh air. Angie Nico kept us posted on the meeting held in Joliet which had a few notions and plans under consideration to be brought up at the National Convention in May and by the way, Angie Nico celebrated her 77th birthday. We all wish her many more.

After our business meeting, Barbara Bruch, our newest member and president of the Illinois Valley Herb Guild, gave a very interesting slide presentation and talk on herbs and spices used in cooking and some that are used for medicinal purposes. We were enlightened by all the knowledge that Barbara spoke of the herbs. It was an evening well-spent and enjoyed.

On our March meeting committee were Jo Argubright and Darlene Wasielewski; for April, they were Marilyn Argubright and Rose Kellett.

V upanju, da ste praznovali vaše velikonočne praznike v mir in zadovolstvu!

EUNICE KOMATER



In Loving Memory

- 1 - Helen Valentincic (96)  
54-yr member
- 2 - Mary Koscak (88)  
42-yr member  
Rose Moline (92)  
40-yr member
- 3 - Christine Mehle (91)  
41-yr member
- 10 - Louise Fabec (87)  
56-yr member
- 12 - Mary Maren (88)  
28-yr member  
Veronica Visek (86)  
68-yr member
- 14 - Mary Grill (90)  
36-yr member  
Mary Zakrajsek (103)  
65-yr member
- 16 - Mary Krznarich (84)  
59-yr member
- 20 - Lauretta Barney (86)  
46-yr member
- 23 - Amelia Christensen (87)  
61-yr member  
Kristine Garni (69)  
15-yr member
- 24 - Stefanie Kobilsek (90)  
60-yr member
- 25 - Antonia Lozar (89)  
45-yr member  
Christine Verbiec (98)  
59-yr member
- 30 - Frances Tomisic (76)  
42-yr member
- 32 - Mary Grze (100)  
61-yr member
- 43 - Anne Hiller (90)  
42-yr member
- 59 - Mary Dvorsak (92)  
61-yr member
- 65 - Agnes Lipovac (86)  
52-yr member
- 88 - Mary Klanchar (84)  
56-yr member
- 95 - Louise Dolan (100)  
55-yr member

In Memoriam

Catherine Hoefler of our Branch 106 went to her eternal rest in February. She was secretary-treasurer for many years, resigned in 1985 due to failing health. She was a member for 47 years, having originally joined in 1948 in Meadowlands.

Catherine made her home the last few years with her daughter and son-in-law, Lillian and Herman Guido who survive her. Also, she has granddaughters and great grandchildren. She was a devout Catholic.

My memory of Catherine is from the times she and her brother got out on the dance floor - they were the best! Everyone would move over and just watch them!

From all of our members to her family, God bless you.

To you, Catherine, May the angels welcome you with heavenly music.

JOSEPHINE V. JACOBS

NO. 95, SO. CHICAGO, IL

A pall enveloped the atmosphere of our April meeting as we grieved the death of our recording secretary, Frances Benkovich who was also very active in the community. President, Millie James eulogized our dear Frances and reminded us of all her efforts on behalf of the branch.

Also, we heard of the passing of Louise "Lojza" Dolan at age 102. She was the wife of Paul Dolan whom we all loved in our youth. He would pile all of the neighbor kids in his truck and take us on outings in Michigan and wherever he knew we'd have fun. Happy memories!

Members, please note! Our meetings will now be held on the first Saturday of the month at the school hall, 1:30 p.m. If that facility is not available, on occasion, we'll meet at the rectory meeting room.

In case you have been wondering where we have been - no meetings in January - March. We were all thrilled to welcome back Mary C. Perkovich who had a frightening illness for so long.

Faithful friend, Helen Nowich visited Mary Possedi and found her health much improved.

Mary Jurko's guest at our gathering was Mary Harnisch who was celebrating her 63rd wedding anniversary!

Lucy Kopilash's brother, John Butkovich passed away in Michigan. Our condolences, Lu.

Millie Cuzella's granddaughter, and our junior member, Ann Marie, was inducted in the National Honor Society, one of the youngest, at age 16.

Hostesses were Marge Krmpotic, Ann Yosue, Bernice Morrison, Millie James, Dolores Hennelly, Julie Hansen, assisted by Evelyn Driscoll.

Split-the-Pot winners were Mary C. Perkovich and Ann Yosue. Other fortunate members were Mary Toporis, Marge Niksich, Marie Maras, Bernice Morrison, Ann Yosue, Millie James, Mary Harnisch, Stella Knazur, Mary C. Perkovich, Marge Krmpotic and Ann Cikulin.

Last reminder -- Dolores Hennelly requests that members who have not as yet paid dues hold off, and don't mail in June, July or August as she and her "bridegroom" will be "on the road" in their new trailer. Safe driving!

MARIE MARAS



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**NO. 102, WILLARD, WI**

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Soon we will be preparing all our excess plants and flowers for our Plant Sale on May 7th. How nice to share these with others.

Confirmation was to take place in our parish on April 23rd with 14 young people being confirmed. On April 30, 4 young second graders received their First Holy Communion at our church. Let us join them with our prayers.

We have lost another member of the community. She is Jennie Tolaney, a wonderful mother of six and grandmother of 15. She had 8 great grandchildren. Jennie was one of the early settlers of Willard, being brought here as a child from Aspen, Colorado in 1916. She was a hard worker, willing to help wherever needed and now she has gone to her reward. Our sincere condolences to the surviving families.

Our good wishes to shut-in members, especially those in the nursing homes. May your days be ever brighter.

Matilda Simcic (Br. 43):

## Some Historical Reflections

Milwaukee, WI: With great interest we read Br. 13's history, especially about "Naša Bara" who organized Branches 13, 20, 43 and others! She was born Bara Jaklevic in Radoviče near Metlika in Bela Krajina, same as my husband. Bara left her homeland for the U.S.A. as an 11 year old girl and joined her older brother in San Francisco, California. Upon visiting her homeland later on, she stayed with the Simcic family and my husband, Martin, remembers her well. She had a "Kapelica" built there and came home for the dedication. Bara married a young man from her village.

The two of us immigrated to the USA in Sept. 1949, and a couple of years later, Bara Kramer came to visit us in Milwaukee. Her conversation was only about Zveza and Zveza! and Chinatown in San Francisco where she used to play cards twice a week! In the early 1950s I had no idea what Ženska Zveza was all about. She explained it to me and encouraged me to become a member. I did so in 1962. Because of Bara I was always interested in Zveza and was active for the last 19 years. I attended over 20 state conventions and to some I was a delegate. This month I will be attending my fifth National Convention and will come once again to San Francisco. I look forward to seeing many of the members there as it is important that the leaders of our branches attend and become informed.

Right now I am reading the history of SWU of America which our Founder, Marie Prisland wrote and presented to Rev. Claude Okorn who was our Spiritual Advisor of Zveza from 1957 until his death in July, 1979.



Best wishes to Carita! What a beautiful article!

A happy Mother's Day to all our mothers and grandmothers, everywhere. And welcomed to our new Br. 108 in Virginia!

What a wonderful brochure was sent with the packet of greeting cards showing the carnations, especially the words that pointed out the highlights of our

The three most important ladies of the organization were Marie Prisland, Founder, Bara Kramer and Albina Novak. I can't believe the many accomplishments of Mrs. Prisland and Mrs. Novak! There were many others that followed, like Josephine Livek, Antonia Turek, Julia Gottlieb, Josephine Račič, Matilda Duller and hundreds of others, all over the United States.

Dec. 19th, 1996 Zveza will be celebrating the 70th Anniversary. Originally, according to Mrs. Prisland, some people said to her: this ladies' organization will last only one day! "Muha enodnevnicna" were their exact words. But, here we are, almost 70 years later and still going strong! In 1963 there were 12,000 members! We really are a unique organization!



Speedy recovery to Josephine Durand of Br. 43 and all sick and shut-in members. I am sure that this spring weather will make us all feel better.

Just heard that Mary Murn of Br. 17 (now 12) passed away on Sunday, March 26th. She was very active in SWU. Donations in her memory may be sent to the Scholarship Fund. Our sympathy to her loved ones. She was the author of a book Slovenian poems which was published by the SWU in 1986 entitled: Roses from My Gardens and in 1988, her family published a book of her poems in English entitled, Roses and Thorns.

Deepest sympathy to Marion Royten on the loss of her husband, Gilbert. We both worked and retired from the same place, the American Motors Corp. May he rest in peace.

Happy birthday to the members born in May and Happy Mother's Day to all mothers!

Regards! Lep pozdrav vsem!

Slovenian Women's Union! Must be given credit for accomplishing!

I heard this bit of advice recently and thought it would be good to share with you: - Don't visit during a meeting, invite your friends to your home instead!

Hope to see many of you in San Francisco. Na svidenje!

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Mary Sever (24) October 5  
Cecilia Krasovec (88) November 22

Theresa Hauptman (7) Born October 6, 1892  
Mary Zakrajsek (14) December 10

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**Cirila Kermavner:**

## ZANIMIVOST DIŠEČIH VODA



in "Champagne", ki ju je sestavila za Yvesa Saint Laurenta. Calvin Klein ima od nje Eternity in Eternity for Men.

Sophia vse vonje predstavlja s kemičnimi formulami, takorekoč "duha jih z razumom". "Če parfum sestavim po formulah, skoraj zmerom dobim tisto, kar pričakujem", razlaga. "Na primer" reče Sophia, "take dišava me spominja na Carmen!" Kadar smije parfum, si vedno predstavlja človeka. Prav v tem je skrivnost njene uspešnosti. In v tem, da intuicijo z matematično natančnostjo, spreminja v resničnost.

Tri do pet parfumov naredi na leto. Potem, ko posamezne vonje sestavi v laboratoriju, parfum najprej preskusi na sebi. Tako se je ji primerilo, da ji je pred leti v Centralnemu Parku sledil neki možki. "Ne bojte se", se je opravičil, "samo vašemu parfumu sledim... čudovit je!" Bil je Vanderbilt in je postal velika uspešnica.

Sophia je parfum, ki se danes prodaja kot "Trésor", zasnovala zamo zase. Zanimivo, kakega dne je zagledala fotografijo Isabelle Rossellini v neki parfumeriji. "Moj Bog, ta moj parfum bi bil prav za to žensko, čistega, rahlo vzhodnjaškega obraza." Malo pozneje je zvedele, da Lancomé išče parfum za Isabelle. Šla je tja in rekla, "Jaz imam parfum za vašo Isabelle." In "Trésor" je postal najbolj priljubljen parfum tega desetletja.

Ima Sophie posebno oster nos? Sploh ne. Kadar kuha, pravi njen mož, in kaksno jed prisodi, žena sploh ne zaduha.

Ste že kaj preizkusile njene parfume?

**Mary Štangelj Murn**

## MATERINA LJUBEZEN

*Sveti se lučka, vedno gori,  
za sina, za hčerko mati skrbi.  
Zapustili otroci so davno ta kraj,  
kdaj, oj le kdaj, kateri še pride nazaj?*

*Mame ljubezen jih spremlja poysod,  
za vroče molitve ve le sam Bog.  
Iz srca se dviga v nebo,  
ti jim ohrani dušo, telo.*

*Izmerjena že je globina morja,  
izmerjena je visočina neba:  
je večja kot morje, neskončno nebo,  
ljubezen je mame večje kot to.*

V pričujoči pesmi Mary Stangelj Murn predstavlja bolečino matere, ki se mora ločiti od svojega otroka. Pesmi gospe Murn bodo vedno oznanjale njeno plemenito ime. Zbirko njenih pesmi, *Rože z mojih vrtov*, ki je izšla leta 1986, v založbi SZZ, še vedno lahko dobite. Gospa Murn je pred kratkim izrekla zadnje slovo svetu, ki ga je ljubila, v njem trpela in mu posvetila svoje najmočnejše misli in želje.



*Maksim Gaspari*

# B A R A G A



## Začetki Katoliške Cerkve v Ameriki

FRANC JAKLIČ

### VIII. BARAGA APOSTOLSKI VIKAR V SAULTU SAINTE MARIE

#### ŠKOFOVSKO POSVEČENJE (1. novembra 1853)

V začetku oktobra 1853 je Baraga prišel v Detroit. Tam mu je 13. oktobra škof Lefèvre uradno sporočil, da je prišla listina (breve), s katero je sveti oče Pij IX. dne 29. julija ustanovil apostolski vikariat Gorenji Michigan in njega imenoval za apostolskega vikarja. Cincinnati nadškof John Purcell mu bo 1. novembra, na vseh svetnikov dan, podelil škofovsko posvečenje. Kot naslovni škof se bo imenoval po nekdanji škofiji Amyzónia v nadškofiji Staurópolis severno od Kavkaza. Papeška listina pravi, da ga za apostolskega vikarja priporočajo "pobožnost, verska gorečnost in misijonsko delo pri Indijancih".

21. oktobra je Baraga pisal iz Detroita nadškofu Purcellu: "Po želji Vaše milosti želim prejeti svoje škofovsko posvečenje po Vaših rokah v Vaši nadškofijski stolnici prihodnjega 1. novembra. Usojam si spomniti Vašo milost na zagotovilo, da mi boste preskrbeli vse, kar je potrebno za posvečenje: škofovsko kapo, naprsni križec, prstan itd. (Če je mogoče.) Takoj po posvečenju nameravam iti v Evropo, ker Gorenji Michigan zelo potrebuje duhovnikov. In za to dolgo pot bom potreboval precej dolarjev. Imam jih pa le

malo. Slovar je moj žep, ki je imel zmerom luknjo, na široko razparal. Poleg tega, kar imam, bom potreboval še 200 dolarjev, da bom varno potoval v Evropo. Ker poznam Vašo ljubeznivost, spoštljivo prosim Vašo milost, da bi mi to vsotico na ta ali oni način preskrbeli." Podpisal se je: "Friderik Baraga, izvoljeni škof amyzónijski in apostolski vikar Gorenjega jezera."

Konec oktobra se je iz Detroita odpeljal proti Cincinnatiju. Stanovat je šel k prijatelju Hammerju in je pri njem opravil predpisane tridnevne duhovne vaje.

Dne 1. novembra 1853 je bil v cincinnatski stolnici posvečen za škofa.

Posvečen je bil torej za škofa prav v tistem mestu, kamor je bil pred 24-imi leti kot preganjani metliški kaplan poslal prošnjo za sprejem v misijone.

Posvetil ga je nadškof Purcell. Sposvečevalca sta bila škofa Peter Pavel Lefèvre in Janez Martin Henni. Navzoč je bil tudi Hammer. Obenem z Barago je bil posvečen tudi jezuit o. Jurij Alojzij Carrol, ravnatelj tamkajšnjega kolegija (zavoda) sv. Frančiška Ksaverija, in sicer za škofijo Covington (Kóvingten) v zvezni državi Kentucky. Obema je pridigal škof Spalding iz Louisvilla (Lúisvila), poznejši nadškof v Baltimoru. Kot vodilo pridige je vzel besede iz 3. Mojzesove knjige (21, 10): "Tisti pa, ki je véliki duhovnik med svojimi brati in je bilo na njegovo glavo izlito olje maziljenja in ki je posvečen, da se oblači v sveta oblačila, naj ne hodi s svetega mesta, da ne oskruni Gospodovega svetišča, kajti olje svetega maziljenja njegovega Boga je na njem."

Več duhovnikov in mnogo katoliškega ljudstva se je bilo zbralo v stolnici. Baraga pa tega svojega največjega dneva ni nikjer opisal.

Prvo slovesno škofovsko mašo je opravil v Hammerjevi župni cerkvi Matere božje. Bila je polna vernikov. Svete obrede je opravil z veliko točnostjo. Po maši in popoldne po večernicah je imel nemško pridigo o Mariji. Ker je bil sam preveč reven, da bi si kupil naprsni križec in verižico, mu ju je kupila Hammerjeva župnija.

V Stonelicku (Stóunliku) je imel prvo birmo. Birmal je 34 otrok. Vernikom, ki so bili po narodnosti Angleži, Francozi in Nemci, je napravil veliko veselje, ker so slišali božjo besedo vsak v svojem jeziku.

V cincinnatski angleško-irski cerkvi sv. Janeza je imel še enkrat slovesno mašo, po maši pa pretresljiv govor o skrbi za svetičanje. Poslušalci so mu zbrali 62 dolarjev.

Razen svojega lastnega apostolskega vikariata je sprejel v škofovsko oskrbo tudi indijanske dele sosednjih škofij, ki z njimi škofje, ker niso znali indijanskega, skoraj niso vedeli kaj početi. Detroitški škof mu je izročil šest okrožij (counties) na Dolenjem Michiganu, kjer so prebivali Otavani; vsako leto mu je dajal skromni prispevek 200 dolarjev za cerkvene potrebe. Škof Henni iz Milwaukeeja, mu je prepustil zahodno obalo Gorenjega jezera od Fond du Laca do Grand Portagea. Kanadska škofa v Hamiltonu in Torontu sta mu dala v oskrbo ves severni breg Gorenjega jezera, indijanske vasi severno in vzhodno od Saulta in Otok sv. Jožefa. Baraga je torej postal višji pastir vse obale Gorenjega jezera, ki je bila takrat še vsa indijanska. Postal je tudi višji pastir vsega severovzhodnega brega Michiganskega jezera in nekoliko severnega brega Huronskega jezera. Indijansko ozemlje, ki ga je oskrboval drugim škofom, je bilo dvakrat ali trikrat tako veliko kakor njegov lastni vikariat. Pa je to breme voljno sprejel in potrpežljivo nosil, ker je ljubil Indijance. Bil je torej v polnem pomenu besede "indijanski škof", kakor so ga imenovali v Ameriki in Evropi.

V svojem vikariatu je imel manj ko 10.000 katoliških vernikov, polovico Indijancev in polovico belih rudarjev in trgovcev.

Kakor je bil kot misijonar zmerom le pionir in je povsod – razen v Krivem drevesu – moral začeti vse znova, tako je moral popolnoma na novo graditi tudi svoj apostolski vikariat.

Izbral si je pomenljiv škofovski grb. Razdeljen je v tri polja. Zgoraj so Jezusove besede Lazarjevi sestri Marti: "Unum est necessarium. Eno je potrebno," namreč skrbeti za neumrjočo dušo. Pod napisom sta običajna škofovska znaka: škofovski klobuk in dolga vrstica s čopi. V levem polju je Jezusov monogram IHS s križcem zgoraj in tremi žebli spodaj. V desnem polju je Marijin monogram, nad njim zvezda, pod njim pa Marijino Srce, prebodeno z mečem bolečin. Zdólanje polje ima križ, sidro in srce, znake za vero, upanje in ljubezen.

\* \* \* \* \*

Za sedež vikariata si je Baraga izbral mestoce Sault de Sainte Marie ali krajše pisano Sault Ste. Marie (Su Sent Méri). Po slovensko bi se reklo "Slap svete Marije", ker se tam voda Gorenjega jezera vali čez skalovje in se pod imenom Reka svete Marije (Ste. Marie River) izliva v Huronsko jezero. Onstran vode je Kanada, tako da leži en del današnjega mnogo povečanega Saulta v Združenih državah, en del pa v Kanadi. Lavtižar je leta 1854 tedanji Sault takole opisal: "Mesto je še majhno, kakor kakšna večja vas na Kranjskem. Hiše so vse lesene, pa večinoma prav čedne, zunaj pobeljene; znotraj so stene preplepljene z raznobarnim papirjem, tla pa pogrnjena s preprogami. Cerkev je lesena, a prostorna; v zvoniku je zvon, ki še enega centa nima. Prebivalci so kanadski Francozi, Irci in Amerikanci, večinoma katoličani: Indijanci so se morali umakniti pred Evropejci. V majhni trdnjavi je 50 vojakov. Da bi se ladje mogle izogniti slapu, koplje okoli tisoč mož četrte ure dolg prekop; od njih je polovica Nemcev. Zdaj sta tukaj dva jezuita, Francoza; eden – misli na o. Kohlerja (Kólerja) – govori tudi nemško, eden – o. Menet iz Nantesa (Nanta) v zahodni Franciji – pa tudi poljsko, ker je bil 14 let v Galiciji; pri sebi imata tudi dva redovna brata, ki skrbita za cerkev, šolo, vrt kuhinjo in za vse hišne potrebščine. V posebni stavbi poučujeta deklice dve redovnici, francoski uršulinki. Protestantje imajo v vasi dve cerkvi in eno šolo."

Sault je bil takrat največje mestoce v Baragovem apostolskem vikariatu in je imel v mesecih, ko jezera niso bila zamrznjena, dobre plovne zveze z drugimi kraji ob treh velikih jezerih. V Saultu so se ustavljale ladje, ki so pripeljale rudo s keweenawskih rudnikov; potem so jo pa težaki vozili k ladjam, ki so čakale na severnem bregu Huronskega jezera.

Sault Ste. Marie so ustanovili Očipvejci in mu dali ime Baotig. Očipvejci so se naselili tam že pred davnim časom, ker je bilo v Reki svete Marije in v kotih obeh jezer mnogo rib. Prvi duhovnik, ki je okoli leta 1615 prišel v Baotig, je bil frančiškan o. Jožef Le Carón (Karó). Nekaj časa se je mudil tam – razen drugih francoskih jezuitov – tudi o. Izak Jogues (žog), ki so mu Indijanci 18. oktobra 1648 z bojno sekiro zdrobili glavo in je bil z drugimi kanadskimi mučenci nedavno proglašen za svetnika. Kot ustanovitelj saultskega misijona pa velja jezuit o. Dablón, ki je več let tam deloval. Francoski osvajalec Lussoń (Lisó) je pred zastopniki 14-ih indijanskih naselbin in pred zbrano množico Indijancev vneseno slavil veličino Francije in njenega kralja Ludovika. XIV. Dal je ustreliti s topom. Indijanci so strmeli in od strahu trepetali. Nato je Lussoń vzel deželo v francosko last. Misijon je bil požgan leta 1674, ko so se na zborovanju severnih Indijancev krvavo spopadli zastopniki rodov Sju in Očipve. Šele redeptorist o. Hätscher ga je leta 1834 obnovil. Postavil je cerkvico, ki so jo pa sovražniki katoliške vere požgali. Saultski beli priseljenci so bili le bolj po imenu katoličani, ker so morali biti dolga leta brez duhovnika. Jeseni leta 1836 je prišel tja naš Pirc. Zelo ga je bilo treba, ker sta prav tisto leto prišla tja kar dva protestantska pridigarja in začela vabiti katoličane. Leta 1837 je Pirc postavil novo leseno cerkev in hišico za duhov-

nika. Moral se je pa zadolžiti, ker mu škof Resé ni hotel izročiti denarja, ki so mu ga poslali z Dunaja in iz Ljubljane. Versko življenje se je pod Pircem lepo obnovilo; krstil je več poganov in spreobrnil nekoliko protestantov. Iz Saulta je ustanovil nekaj misijonov med Indijanci bližnje Kanade. Ostal je do 1. julija 1838. Nato smo ga srečali pri Baragi in njegovi sestri v La Póintu, ko je odhajal v Grand Portage. Od tam se je pa kmalu preselil v Krivo drevo in od tam oskrboval tudi Sault in podružnice, dokler se niso leta 1846 naselili jezuiti. O. Menet (Mne) je oskrboval Sault, o. Kohler bližnje kanadske misijonske podružnice, o. Hanipeaux (Anipó) je pa bil nekak potujoči misijonar za kanadske Indijance. – Zaradi protestantov se katoliški verski obredi niso smeli v Saultu opravljati zunaj cerkve; tudi sveto popotnico so morali nositi bolnikom skrito.

### PRVI DVE ŠKOFOVSKI OKROŽNICI (1853)

Takoj po škofovskem posvečenju je Baraga dal v Cincinnatiju natisniti prvi dve škofovski okrožnici, angleško in indijansko. Po vsebini sta različni, obe pa preveva njegova velika ljubezen do duhovnik otrok. Govori jim bolj kot oče kakor pa kot cerkveni dostojanstvenik. V indijanski okrožnici se večkrat ponavlja nagovor: "Otročiči moji, ki vas ljubim."

A. Angleška okrožnica spominja v uvodu na Boga, ki nam je dal ves svet v last in nas namenil za večno nadnaravno srečo. Pošilja nam tudi nesreče, da bi bolj živeli po njegovi volji. – Potem govori o poglavitnih dolžnostih do Boga.

1. Srečni smo, ker imamo sveto vero. Vera pa mora biti trdna, saj se opira na božjo resnicoljubnost. S svojim slabotnim razumom seveda ne moremo razumeti vseh verskih resnic, ker govorijo o neskončnem Bogu. Naša vera mora biti živa; mora nas voditi pri vseh naših dejanjih in nas spodbujati k dobrim

delom. 2. Molitev je naša dolžnost, ker smo božje stvari in v vsem odvisni od Boga. Kristus nas je z besedo in zgledom navajal k molitvi. Brez molitve se ne moremo varovati greha in rasti v dobrem. Bog je povsod pričujoč, zato se z njim povsod lahko pogovarjamo v molitvi. Kristijan rad moli. Večkrat nas tudi posebne prilike kličejo k molitvi. – Nedelja nam bodi zares svet dan. 3. Ker nas Bog povsod sliši, ne smemo nikoli govoriti bogokletno ali nesramežljivo. Še pred duhovnikom bi se sramovali takih pogovorov, kaj šele pred Bogom. 4. Govori o pokorščini do Boga, do sv. Cerkve, do staršev in predstojnikov. 5. Najbolj sveta od vseh dolžnosti je ljubezen do Boga. Vsak otrok ljubi svojega očeta; ali ne bo kristijan tembolj ljubil nebeškega Očeta? Ljubezen do Boga se mora tudi kazati v dejanju. Iz ljubezni do Boga naj izvira ljubezen do domačih, do sorodnikov, do prijateljev in do sovražnikov. Podrobno razlaga prvo in največjo zapoved: "Ljudi Gospoda, svojega Boga, z vsem svojim srcem."

V uvodu angleške okrožnice pravi vernikom: "Prvikrat vam po teh vrsticah govorim kot vaš višji pastir in škof. Naj vam gredo te besede do srca, kakor tudi meni prihajajo od srca. To srce je vas zmerom ljubilo, dragi moji otročiči, a še nikoli tako očetovsko kakor zdaj."

B. Indijanska okrožnica je bila tiskana na desetih straneh. Njeni stavki so bolj kratki, misli preproste in jasne. Začenja se: "Frederic Baraga, Kitchi-Mekatewikanawanaie. Ninidjanissidog saagiinagog, Weweni kid anamikoninim." To je: "Friderik Baraga, škof. Otročiči moji, ki vas ljubim, lepo vas pozdravljam." Potem jim razlaga, da je zdaj postal naslednik apostolov. Naj torej te njegove nauke večkrat bero. Kar jih ne zna brati, naj prosijo druge in ti naj jim radi bero. Govori jim o sreči prave vere, zato se naj je zvesto držijo. Tudi verske skrivnosti moramo trdno verovati in se zanesti na Jezusa, ki nam jih je razodel. Spominja jih na večno plačilo po smrti, pa tudi na večno kazen. Le eno je potrebno, namreč ljubiti Boga, spolnjevati njegove zapovedi in tako zveličati svojo dušo. Zato moramo dvigati duha od posvetnih stvari k večnim. To življenje je kratko in ima samo ta pomen, da se pripravimo na večnost. Napačen je nauk protestantskih pridigarjev, da je za zveličanje dovolj že sama vera, brez dobrih del. Že otroke je treba učiti in vzgajati v veri. Opozarja jih na potrebnost in važnost molitve. Jezus jim je rekel, da je treba zmerom moliti in nikoli ne nehati. Priporoča jim zlasti jutranjo in večerno molitev. Sploh maj mnogokrat mislijo na Boga. Zavest o božji pričujočnosti jih mora odvracati od greha. Goreče jim priporoča ljubiti Boga in zanj sprejemati žrtve Sviri jih pred pijančevanjem in razuzdanostjo. – Za vaskim važnejšim stavkom naroča: "To si dobro zapomnite!"

Baragova indijanska okrožnica je prva uradna cerkvena listina, pisana v jeziku severnoameriških Indijancev. Kakor je sv. Pavel posvetil grščino, ko je v njej pisal spreobrnjencem svoje liste, tako je Baraga blagoslovil in počastil očipvejščino, ko je kot naslednik apostolov po njej spregovoril svojim Indijancem.



— Nadaljevanje —

# "FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART"

## DAVY'S COLUMN

### Do You Speak Flower?

"April showers bring May flowers" is how the verse goes, but what are those flowers saying?

For centuries flowers have been a means of communicating not only feelings, but entire messages.

A bouquet can declare one's undying love and commitment, or it can declare war. The difference is in the type of flowers used and with some varieties; the color is equally important.

So, if flowers were what you had planned for mom on Mother's Day, be careful of your choice. Lilies are nice, so long as they're not yellow and coupled with the Tamarisk. This combination traditionally accuses the receiver of a crime and falsehoods.

Achillea traditionally declares war. Here's a list of flowers and the messages they convey. Several of these may be more appropo for Mother's Day.

'til next month

Davy

The Bridal Rose  
Calceolaria  
White Chrysanthemum  
Red Chrysanthemum  
Daffodil  
Daisy  
Fern  
Forget-me-not  
Fuchsia  
Geranium  
Gladioli  
Iris  
Ivy  
Lily of the Valley  
Nasturtium  
Peony  
Snowdrop  
Stock  
Tulip  
Violet  
Wallflower

- Happy Love  
- Keep this for my sake.  
- Absolute truth and fidelity  
- I love you.  
- You are high in regard.  
- Innocence of youth  
- Utter sincerity  
- Pure love  
- Impeccable taste  
- Friendship and comfort  
- A strong character  
- A messenger  
- Faithful friendship  
- Restored happiness  
- Patriotic sentiment  
- Shy and bashful  
- Hopefulness  
- Lasting Beauty  
- A declaration of love  
- Faithful to the end  
- Fidelity



## STORY OF THE PRETZEL

The pretzel was originally made in Germany as gifts to children who learned their prayers.

The first time you cross the ends represents children.

The second time you twist the ends represents their parents.

The three holes made by the design represent the Holy Trinity.

And the thumbprints you put on your pretzels to make the intersections stay together mark that pretzel as your very own trademark.

(Heard from Mr. Rogers Show when he visited a pretzel factory that was family owned.)

## S M I L E S . . .

The little ol' lady was stopped on the ramp, waiting for traffic to clear a little before moving out on to the expressway.

She waited and waited. The traffic spaced some and still she didn't move.

Finally the guy in the car behind her leaned out and shouted, "It says 'YIELD,' lady, not 'GIVE UP'."

-Quote

"This is my grandma," said little Mary to her kindergarten friends. Then, patting grandma's hand, she added sweetly: "She's 60 years old and still alive."

\* \* \*

One of the nice things about getting older is that your children cross to your side of the generation gap.



### Say It With Flowers & Plants

by Ann Childs and Stanley Coleman  
Avenel Books

## Slovenian Women's Union of America

A burial organization that has 7,000 adult members throughout the United States in the following states: Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, New York, Washington, D.C., Pennsylvania, Kansas, Missouri, Colorado, Washington, Oregon and California. There are over 90 subordinate societies in the major Slovenian settlements in these states.

Every adult member receives free, a copy of the official organ, ZARJA-THE DAWN, a bi-lingual magazine carrying the news and items of interest to our membership. In ZARJA are also published official reports and articles submitted by the branches. Each group is encouraged to send in their news for publication in either or both languages.

Junior members are also very welcome, and for very little assessment. They are insured for \$100 death benefit. They do not received the ZARJA publication, however. They may retain their junior classification until reaching the age of 18 years when they may transfer to adult class.

Since 1976 we have also opened membership to men in the families of our members. They pay the same as the ladies in monthly assessment and are considered members of our Associate Department. Boys until age of 18 are regular junior members of the organization and then my transfer to the Associate Department.

The following is the Classification Schedule and Assessment Schedule:

### **MEMBERSHIP CLASSES – Branch dues not included**

Juniors – Birth to 18	\$ 2.40 per year	\$100 benefit – No ZARJA
Class A – 14 to 51	\$10.60 per year	\$100 benefit
Class B – 14 to 66	\$13.60 per year	\$300 for ages up to 31 \$250 for ages up to 41 \$200 for ages up to 46 \$150 for ages up to 56 \$100 for ages up to 66
Social – 66 plus	\$ 8.80 per year	No benefits – ZARJA only

Associate Department, same as above, Class A and Class B.

Junior Department pays \$100 Death Benefit for member at any age to 18 years.

NOTE: Social Members are those who are too old to join the regular class of insurance members, either A or B. They received the publication ZARJA but do not have any Death Benefit and are not eligible to become officers of the organization.